

## EMTI Minutes 4-5-06

**Present:** Sandy, Nona, Carroll, Mary

**Minutes** of 2-7-07 read and approved with corrections. Sandy moved, Nona second

**Town Forest Committee:** Nona clarified that the committee will meet to create a document outlining recommendations for the use and management of the new parcel of land, off North Street, accepted by the select board as Town Forest. The committee consists of Paul Cate-forester, Charles Johnson-naturalist, Nona Estrin-trails, Sandy Woodbeck-hunter, Brian Slopey\*, education.

\*Mary called to invite Brian to join committee on 4-8, and he agreed!

**Bikes:** Much discussion centered on our mission statement and the meaning of “multiple use” designation for trails. This arose from a request from Rick for a letter in support of a Montpelier grant application for the construction of a bike trail from the Montpelier Rec field to the East Montpelier trail network. Nona composed and mailed a letter to Travis Pate of the Americorps office in Montpelier. A copy is attached.

I believe there was a general consensus that we as an organization would aim for multiple use trail designation, with the understanding that certain uses are not appropriate for certain types of terrain or ecosystems. Early in the negotiations for trail easements it was necessary to allow the landowner to determine which uses would be allowed on the trail on their property. Trail use, stewardship, and maintenance were untried, and all reasonable landowner input was honored in order to encourage participation. Our mission states “to create a mix of trails which satisfies both landowner’s desires and community needs.” Though the goal is to design a multi use trail, we need the flexibility to negotiate with reluctant landowners. We would also retain the right to temporarily close a trail or section of trail to certain uses due to maintenance or misuse.

**Gully Jumpers Groomer Fundraiser:** discussion on how to manage a raffle directed at the skiers using the snowmobile trails. Nona and Mary will contact Morse Farm for passes and ORS for equipment and notify Sandy. He will print raffle tickets which will be ready to go on sale by ? for the raffle to be held after the Montpelier Rec Dept ski and skate sale in November. **Idea while typing minutes:** promotion for the raffle and option to purchase/sell tickets, or make a donation should go out with the application for Gully Jumper membership. An article and/or ad in the Bridge could also promote the raffle.

**Summer work season:** Mary will send out spring walk through forms to the trail stewards. Nona is working with Kevin on final grant funding balance. Due to the late hour, further discussion was postponed to next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** Tues June 6 at Mary’s