

EMTI Meeting
October 25th, 2016

Present: Sue Chickering, Nona Estrin, Mary Stone, Jennifer Boyer, Richard Brock, Rick Hopkins
Nona asked Josh Ryan if he would be willing to have someone write an article about Josh and Greg Western (Loring Starr has done articles in the past) so Nona will ask her and someone will ask Greg if he is interested.

There are no minutes from the September meeting but the board approved Madeleine Mongeon as a new member of the board.

Treasurer's report: Northcountry CD (\$15,000+) is about to rollover – since the Fairmont project was approved by the board. \$5308.00 is in the TD Bank Account (\$3000.00 is reserved for easement). We can use \$2000 out of the TD account to Greg Western or whomever it needs to go to for this easement which we committed to long ago (May). We are still going to get \$4000 from the town that was promised in Town Meeting. Bruce Johnson asked us to wait until December.

Sparrow Farm Boardwalk has been replaced! MAMBA and 280 volunteer hours later, it was completed over the course of about three days. VMBA donated \$1700, Concept 2 gave \$500, EMTI \$300 and MAMBA did a GOFUNDME campaign as well. When Rick was there, there were about 40 people working together. Prep work was done at Dan Voisin's house with the help of many kind souls.

Trail Map and website update: Jennifer has been updating the Trail Map on our emtrails.org website, with numbers for the Trails and letters for the parking lots in the description that is attached. Mary walked from Haggett Road to Cherry Tree Hill and the distance is 6.11 miles. Signage could be improved when you come out on Templeton to know which direction to go along the main roads. Several other intersections with main roads could use improved signage to direct people which way to head to the next trail section. Jennifer will start the new website and it will be up and running soon. She will add a "Project page" where people can see what we are working on with pictures.

Esther Salmi's Rock : There is now a bench at Esther Salmi's Rock for all to enjoy! Kudos to Paul Cate and Rick Hopkins for this new addition! The other half of the bench could possibly be placed on the trail between Dodge and Center Road at the height of land after you come out into the field and head left a ways.

Sparrow Farm Trail (North) update: Mary emailed Sumana Serchin (VLT contact for the easement across this land). For some reason this easement did not designate EMTI as the "manager" in this case. Les Birnbaum's house/land is for sale. Mary is going to connect with her to talk about this situation so that at some point with the new owners we could be designated as the trail managers.

Mallory Bridge update: The bridge is in sad shape and Mary talked with Dave Burley and Josh

Ryan about coming up with a plan to fix it. Chris Pratt will also need to approve this project. They will be taking this on. There is also a washout that has been patched and the stone steps have been improved. Greg Western has been the driving force behind these other trail improvements. David is checking on the specs for the span, pedestrian use, materials, etc. and then Chris and Josh need to weigh in.

Ormsbees: There is a new easement donated by the Ormsbees and EMTI is unclear about the conditions of this easement. Our goal is to create a trail between Center Road and Powder Horn Glen Road, possibly connecting with a network of trails on Loring Starr's property. Stay tuned.

East Montpelier Village discussion: Nona is suggesting that we try to connect our Village area with 1) the Cross Vermont Trail and 2) the Mallory Brook trail so people could go by trail on foot. Are we as a committee interested in pursuing this at some point in the future? We can discuss this further at a future meeting. There is also a nice swimming hole on the railroad bed side of the river – at some point it would be nice to be able to cross the river (and maybe the town would consider this expense if it was a goal of the village). More coming... Nona wants to bring this up at the next planning commission meeting and we said that this would be OK for her to mention this.

Next Meeting will be: January 10th at Richard Brock's house at 7:00 PM