

East Montpelier Trails Committee Meeting  
July 18, 2019

Present: Richard Brock, David Brock, Maddy Mongan, Lauren Padillo, Jennifer Boyer, Mary Stone, Sue Chickering

May 28th meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: We are in good shape financially and we will be getting more money from the town soon.

Electric Bike Discussion - ensued regarding whether to allow electric bikes on the trails since we believe that right now our easement guidelines (or bylaws) state specifically "No motorized vehicles". Mary brought up the fact that on the T Clark trail they are wondering whether motorized wheel chairs would be allowed to be used on this trail.

- Richard will call Sumana Serchen from the Vermont Land Trust to ask whether they have any experiences with electric bikes and easements.
- Mallory Brook Discussion - Mary read the letter that she and Rick wrote and sent to Chris. Rick also contacted Jaron Borg from the state's "Rivers Program" to look at the stream with us next Thursday, July 25th to discuss where might be the best place to cross the brook. We will shoot for 2:00 PM to meet at Johnson Road parking area on the 25th. Chris will be invited to come with us if he is available. Rick Hopkins, Jennifer, Mary, Sue and Richard Brock will likely be able to be there.

Mowing and keeping trails need open needs to be done more than once over the summer time. Maybe the committee should think about hiring someone to do this maintenance.

- First step would be to ask the current Trail Stewards if they are interested in doing this work. It should be a priority for future National Trails Day to tackle these sections below early on.

Below are the places that tend to need mowing and weed whacking on at least a monthly basis.

- County Road to Esther's Rock
- Behind the fire station on Templeton Road
- Along the out Sparrow Farm fence line
- Powder Horn Glen Parking area

- David Webb will contact trail stewards to see if they are interested in taking this on, and if not, we may move towards using FPF to get some quotes for hiring someone.

Bobolink Trail Easement Discussion - Richard B and Maddy M shared the finalized version of the easement with the input from Bruce Howlett and Carol Dickson. We discussed that the signs will need to specify that "Dogs must be kept on leash" and "Bicycles allowed only with owner permission." Big thanks to Richard and Maddy for these efforts.

Signage Discussion - It was suggested that the Trail Stewards keep track of the signage and replace the cat paws when needed. There is definitely a need for more clarification where our trails interface with the U32 trail network. We still need more Parking signs and at least 500 cat paw markers to give to the stewards along with the galvanized aluminum nails. We still need to put the Hagggett road trailhead sign up and Jennifer has this ready to go. The Sparrow Farm Trail sign was put up and Jennifer needed to take down a bunch of MAMBA signs on our signpost and she has them for now and Rick will go to the next MAMBA meeting to talk about their process of putting up signs.

- Jennifer will put in this order as soon as possible, but this may not happen until the middle of August. We should also ask them if they have any way to make them more permanent as many of them have faded.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 19th at Richard Brock's house at 7:00 PM