

## **Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee**

### **Minutes of the September 13, 2017 meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by chair Paul Jahnige. Also present were members Karin McGowan, Eileen Keegan, David Weber, John Hoogstraten, Gwen Blodgett, Diane Merritt and visitors Jim Lemkin and Phil Merritt

Minutes of the August meeting were approved as amended.

Communications- The committee received a letter from Mass. Humanities including a check for the first portion of our grant.

We also received a note from Rochelle Wildfong of the Meekins Library staff thanking us for our participation in their Thoreau program and leading the woodland walk.

Horse Mt. Project- PJ has not yet met with members of the Kestrel Land Trust and neighbors to discuss the placement of trails and parking. Jim Lemkin, a resident of Coles Rd., attended our meeting and expressed an interest in assisting with the trails. There was some discussion of property locations and trail possibilities. PJ will construct a map including both the Williamsburg and Hatfield parcels.

Fall Hike-We will meet on Sunday, October 22, at 1:00 p.m. at the HLT Breckenridge property, at the Route 9 kiosk and hike down to and along the river to the covered bridge and return. We will finalize details at the October meeting.

Historic Dam Trail- A Saturday, September 23, 1:00 p.m. workday is scheduled to install the roadside sign and signage for the roadside parking area, clear entrance brush and mow the picnic table area.

Briar Hill Area- We agreed to set up a small experimental bridge with the donated trail tread material to determine its effectiveness. If successful we will first use it to cover bog bridges on the Briar Hill trail.

Bradley Area- Downed trees have been removed from the trail by WWT members JH and SL and HLT members Katie Carr and Sally Loomis

MA Voluntary Public Access Program- PJ presented information about this program led by the Franklin Land Trust and partners and funded by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Through this program landowners will be compensated for allowing public access on their property or trails for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing or hiking. Landowners from the eligible 28 town region must apply and be approved for participation.

Adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Merritt

