

## Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee

### Minutes of the December 14, 2017 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by chair Paul Jahnige. Also present were members Eileen Keegan, Gwen Blodgett, Karin McGowan, John Hoogstraten, David Weber, Diane Merritt, Dwight Baghdoyan and visitor Jim Lemkin

Minutes of the November meeting were approved

Communications- none

First Day Hike will take place at the Briar Hill Conservation Area. Participants will meet and park at the Briar Hill entrance at 10:00 a.m. to hike to the scenic lookout for possible campfire and snacks.

Briar Hill- JH, DW and EK installed the experimental tread on the bog bridge on Briar Hill trail for trial.

Trail Maintenance Reports-

Hall Conservation Area- GB reported that there is a windfall that requires removal

MassAudubon Graves Sanctuary- EK reported that there are no issues

Breckenridge Area-DW, EK, JH – removed 2 windfalls

Petticoat Hill Reservation-PJ reported that the trail is ok

Briar Hill Conservation Area- DB reported that the trail is ok

Big View Trail- DM reported that the trail is fine

O'Neil Hill Trail- KM reported that the trail is ok

Recreational Trails Grants are due 2/1/18- we are not considering applying this year

Historic Dam Trail- We continued our discussion related to winter closure of the trail, resulting in a decision to order 2 **caution** signs and 2 **closed in winter** signs. No decision was made on placement.

8:00 p.m.- Joint meeting with WWTC, Open Space Committee and Conservation Commission related to the coordination of goals for the Horse Mountain Project

PJ described that our current involvement in the Horse Mountain Project is the development of a hiking trail on the Williamsburg parcel. Accessing "White Rock" seems to be a goal of both towns. The Open Space Committee had concerns about parking and access to the property. The Conservation Commission as steward of the property, said they would follow the lead of WWTC and OSC. They stated a concern for wildlife habitat especially a possible vernal pool on the Hatfield parcel. The Hatfield Open Space Committee and Conservation Commission are also involved, but no trails committee exists in Hatfield. We will offer to coordinate with them regarding trail development. We related our explorations of a loop trail from the Williamsburg side onto the Hatfield property and return. There was discussion of determining boundary locations using an appraisal which the Conservation Commission holds.

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Merritt