

# Bedford Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes – **Thursday**, February 17, 2011 – 7:30pm Bedford DPW Conference Room

Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2011 approved

Attendees – Ralph, Mark, Hal, Michael, Dan, Peter, Art, Bruce, Kristin, & Adrienne.

## Art – Chairman's Report

Bay Circuit Trail update: Appalachian Mountain Club and the Trustees of the Reservation have voted to join with the Bay Circuit Trail with a new executive board including a representative from each and have contributed \$10,000 from each group to have a paid executive director on board. BCT has 245 miles of trails and are working on filling in the gaps.

Governor Winthrop will be flagged by Art and Elizabeth when the snow is gone. They are committed to showing the abutters where the trail will be going. A group will be needed to cut and blaze the trail when the flagging is complete.

Area A & B/Massport Trail update: the recent development is that the ConCom will soon approve the map of trails for this area. There will be a connecting trail established by the Concord ConCom from our trails to Virginia Road. There will also be a trail established across Virginia Road and over to the Battle Road. Tom Ennis is coming to report on the status of the trails and what the schedule will be at the next Con Com hearing. Art brought trail maps from Massport for the committee to review.

Promote trail use & availability: Art is still interested in doing a Town Meeting report. Art will meet with DPW to work on presentation for Town meeting.

Ralph has written a summary of what the Trails Committee is doing that will be incorporated in the Transportation Committee report for Town meeting.

Trail Guide: Peter has been working with publishing tools to work out a layout that was discussed with Tim Gray. Tim and Lori Eggert are working on gathering content and will need to meet with Peter to start moving forward.

Trail Posts: Art has enough stock for the approved posts and we will start working on installation when the snow is gone.

## Annual Report

Final copies of Annual Report and trail maps were distributed to all members at the meeting. Annual Report and request for approval of bog bridges at Old Reservoir and Carlson to be presented at the Conservation Commission hearing on Wednesday, February 23, 2011. The report and bog bridges will be on the agenda from 7:15 to 8:00pm.

## Bog Bridges

Permit Extension Act – With the extension confirmed, there will not be a new Notice of Intent for bog bridges this spring.

Carlson CA: Dan took a few snow shoe hikes where the existing main trail at Carlson first turns left and went across to Peppergrass Brook and Harvard Drive. We need to determine length and where it would stop. A consultant would be needed to determine sub-soil conditions for a potential boardwalk. Mark suggested contacting the firm that worked in Hartwell (Beals and Thomas).

### **Special Project Coordination**

Rotary Grant: Officially accepted check for \$535.

Evolution of Assabet River will be presented at Rotary meeting next Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at lunch, 12pm at the Doubletree Hotel. Ralph will send an email with the details.

### **Trail Blazing & Mapping**

O'Connor CA: NOI hearing was continued and requires review by the Selectmen before proceeding. We have received letter from Natural Heritage that there are no issues from their perspective. DEP had "no comments". Continued public hearing may also be February 23, 2011 in conjunction with review of the Annual Report. The Selectmen's meeting will discuss this on Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Conservation Commission will continue their hearing for O'Connor on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Trail map review: Updates made to Altmann CA; review blazing corrections. Mark plans to finish blazing at Altmann to match the trail map.

Art has been looking at maps to make connections to Minnie Reid from Governor Winthrop to RR Bed to parcel that connects to Homestead, then cross over North Road and Chelmsford Road to Minnie Reid. Art will follow up on contacting property owners.

Discussed arched bridge from Mark's picture of Holden DPW. We will try to get construction details and see if the design would work for Lantern Lane and Valente. DPW will contact the town of Holden for more information.

Ralph has been talking to SuAsCo about a Great Meadows trail near Little Meadow.

### **Trail Walks & Public Education**

February walk was led by Dan with one participant.

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Art Smith (Bay Circuit Trail from Fawn Lake to MCC)

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dan volunteered to lead the April walk...location to be determined.

Selectmen signed off on the new Committee members. Michael was sworn in. Paul was not in attendance at the meeting.

**Next meeting, Tuesday, March 8, 2011 (back to regular schedule of 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month)**