

## **Readfield Trails Committee Minutes**

### **April 28, 2021**

**Present:** Nancy Buker, Jackie Drouin, Greg Durgin, Bob Harris, Jeanne Harris, Steve Hayes, Rob Peale, Holly Rahmlow

**Excused:** Paul Bessette, Greg Leimbach, Henry Whittemore

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

The March minutes were reviewed. Nancy moved they be approved, and Jeanne seconded. All agreed.

Two new members, Jackie Drouin and Steve Hayes, were welcomed to the committee.

Jeanne announced that we have \$1,446.28 in our account.

Rob reported that he went out with Greg D. and Paul to make sure the proposed trail at Carleton Pond is still marked and obvious. The previously marked trail could potentially be extended a little further to where the road comes down along the lake but would not get much closer to the dam. GAUD does not want to encourage access to the dam area in any case. Rob and others suggested that we might want to build a couple of side trails between the road and lake trail to offer hikers more options for a shorter loop hike (using the road and the trail).

We still have no timeline from GAUD for getting the trail ready. Rob said that perhaps this summer we might be able to clear the trail and set up a small kiosk. Brian plans to wait until fall to build a more permanent kiosk for both hikers and snowmobilers. This project is all volunteers, with no funds from GAUD. We are limiting our trails to those along the pond, because GAUD may sell some of the upland area and the area would be difficult, with our volunteer base, to clear due to slash from logging operations.

Greg D. reported that Greg L. is working with town committees to try to get them to commit to holding an event or two to let the town know more about their activities and purpose. Trails has plans to do an event at Heritage Days if the pandemic eases and it is held.

Greg D. and Bob replaced the sign at the Fairgrounds that had been stolen. The sign was expensive, but we want to keep all the signs the same as the others already on the trails. We may have to reassess if thefts keep occurring.

On April 27 Greg D., Bob, Rob and Jackie worked on the Esker Trail, rerouting a couple of wet places, putting down geotech and mulch, and pruning. Rob also redid the blazing, so the trail is in good shape for the summer.

Greg D. reported that the Age Friendly Committee received a \$2,500 grant for the Fairgrounds trail, with \$2,000 to go toward bluestone and \$500 for a bench. The Readfield Conservation Commission is planning to match that grant with \$2,000 for more bluestone.

Greg D. walked the trail with Jerry Bley of the RCC to plan where to put the stone, and Milt reblazed the trail. Greg said they are planning to use tractors to move the stone, so it won't be just volunteers hauling stone. Also, on the North Trail a culvert has popped and will need to be reset.

Trails, the RCC and Historical Society are planning a display of the pulling stones located off the Fairgrounds Trail for Heritage Days.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 26.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Holly Rahmlow