

**Exeter Trails Committee**

**January 29, 2014**

**Attendees:**

Jason Gregoire (Chair), Steven Shope, Don Briselden, Pete Richardson, Bob Kelly, Jim Clark, Bill Campbell, Kristen Murphy and Southeast Land Trust representative Duane Hyde.

**Discussion:**

**1. Elliot Property Acquisition Update:**

Duane Hyde gave a project status report for the Elliott property. He updated the group on the unsuccessful LCHIP grant and additional grant opportunities available. He also updated the group on his efforts to secure a release deed from the adjacent Home Owners Association for the “triangle portion” of the property.

**2. Rogue Trails:**

Concern was expressed about the growing presence of rogue trails. The Commission has established a process for new trail proposals. Steve confirmed that the Trail Plan identified areas where there was interest in new trail locations. Steve, Bob and Jim will spread the word to trail users on the method for proposing new trails and the review process.

**3. Work Plan for 2014:**

- a. The group discussed interest in working with PEA for their community action day, and potential for reaching out to Timberland and Comcast.
- b. It was suggested the intern posting occur no later than April. Tasks discussed included:
  - i. Trail trimming
  - ii. Re-route of the wet section of trail that leads to the Western front. The goal is to move the trail to the top of the slope to avoid the wetter section.
  - iii. Bridge off of the powerline in Oaklands
  - iv. Little River crossings need attention including replacement of several existing planks, new crossing near the loop from Dolloff Farms, better clearing the entrance from Continental Drive
  - v. Trail surface improvements at the junction of all the Henderson Swasey trails between junction 5 and 6.
  - vi. Sign on the 101 tunnel has been removed and needs replacement.
- c. ADA trail locations discussed included Academy Woods, the Western Front trail, Raynes, Cubie Road with coordination with NHFG. They built a wonderful overlook at the Sweet Trail in Durham. It could serve as a good example for the Cubie Rd. trail.
- d.

4. **Interns for Trail Improvements:** Bob Kelly suggested the group consider the use of a summer intern to complete the list of trail projects that are ready to go. The group thought it would be a good idea and that there was enough work to keep a part time intern busy. Kristen expressed concerns over the workload associated with planning the projects and overseeing the interns. Steve Shope and Bob Kelly said they would be willing to do that. The discussion will be brought forward to the Conservation Commission.

5. Raynes Farm Full Moon Snow Shoe is scheduled for **February 15, at 5:30 pm.**

6. The PSNH powerline upgrade was discussed. Members requested to be informed of when work in the area begins.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner