



**City of Shelton
Trails Committee**

Meeting Minutes for
November 1, 2017

Present: Bill Dyer (Chair), Terry Gallagher, Val Gosset, Jim Taradine, Sheri Dutkanicz, Bob Wood. **Also present:** Teresa Gallagher, Natural Resource Manager; Mike Flament.

The meeting was called to order by Bill Dyer, Chairman, at 5:34 pm.

1. **Meeting Minutes: Sheri Dutkanicz made a motion to approve the October 2017 meeting minutes. Seconded by Val Gosset. All were in favor.**
2. **Membership issues: Sheri Dutkanicz nominated Michael Flament to be a member of the Shelton Trails Committee. Bob Wood seconded. All were in favor.**

Sheri Dutkanicz said that the commission roster should be updated on the City website and its members properly recognized. Teresa Gallagher said she and Bill Dyer had both communicated with Jane Dowty in the Mayor's office about getting those changes made, but were told the Board of Aldermen needed to officially appoint members, and previous members needed to send in a letter of resignation before any updates would be made. It was explained that the committee was set up improperly back in the 1990s and none of the members have ever been approved by BOA. The Conservation Commission set up the Trails Committee as a "subcommittee" but then members were appointed who were not already members of the Conservation Commission. The Trails Committee is therefore technically an "ad hoc" committee, and only the Board of Alderman has authority to create an ad hoc committee and appoint its members.

Sheri Dukanicz said if we need the BOA to officially create the Trails Committee and appoint its members in order to get the roster updated on the website, then we should do so. Teresa Gallagher will touch base with John Anglace, President of the Board of Aldermen.

3. **Recent Trail Activities:**
 - A. A work party was held to clear the Rec Path from Lane Street to Great Ledge (photo). (24 hours total)
 - B. A work party was held to clear the Paugussett reroute at Constitution Blvd/Wiacek fields. (photo) (12 hours)
 - C. Val Gosset spent 2 hours clearing storm damage from Turkey Trot Trail.
 - D. Jim Taradine and Terry Gallagher spent a total of 4 hours clearing a blowdown from the Dog Paw Path.
 - E. Bill Dyer spent a total of 2 hours meeting with a Scout and clearing a parking area.

- F. Terry Gallagher spent 2 hours with a chainsaw clearing blowdowns on the Paugussett North section.
- G. Teresa Gallagher spent 5 hours clearing storm damage from Nells Rock Trail and the trails at Birchbank.
- H. Total volunteer hours for the month = 51 hours*



4. Projects planned for the near future:

- A. **2017 “Lollipop Loop” Trails Challenge:** Four people have completed the hikes so far. There seems to be much less interest than the challenge held the previous year.

5. Guided Hikes/Events:

- A. November 4: Full Moon Hike 7:00 pm, Nicholdale Farm. Raindate Nov. 5, same time.
- B. November 26: Turkey Trot Trek 1:00 p.m., meet at the SIS parking lot.

6. Potential Work Parties:

- 7. November 11, 8:30 am Paugussett Trail reroute at Wiacek. Meet at Const. Blvd. Teresa Gallagher with touch base with CFPA to see if they want to review the trail before it is blazed.

8. Eagle Scout Projects:

- A. Joshua Andes from Boy Scout Troop 11 presented his project to the Trail Committee. He shared a display of the bench he would build for the Silent Waters overlook and the park benches that would be rebuilt. Three of the rebuilt park benches would be placed in locations to be determined by the Trails Committee and Conservation Commission. Terry Gallagher recommended that instead of a concrete slab to anchor the bench at Silent Waters, he use four Sonotubes filled with concrete, one under each leg. They used two Sonotubes for a bench earlier and vandals were able to wiggle the bench free from the concrete. Four should work well and would use less concrete.

Sheri Dutkanicz made a motion to endorse Joshua Andes' proposed Eagle Scout project. Seconded by Bob Wood. All were in favor.



9. Expenses:

- A. Terry Gallagher submitted expenses totaling \$62.00 for Master locks, rock bars, and loppers.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Minutes were prepared by Teresa Gallagher and should be considered a draft until approved by the Trails Committee.