

MINUTES
Trails Committee
January 5, 2015

Attending: Norma and Ron Wiesen, Sue Trecartin, Gail Johnson, Nicole Miller, Katherine Ingram, Eric Remick, Wayne Renaud

1. **Trails Condition.** Terrible. Wayne and Eric rolled all of the trails before the rain hit yesterday, so they added 4-5 inches of base, should be able to scarify it and get to better conditions by the weekend.
2. **November Minutes.** Nicole moved; Katherine seconded. Approved.
3. **Ski Program.** There are 9 students signed up; 6 came last Saturday, stayed out about an hour. Hopefully next week they'll have about the same number. Erica Baker teaches with Melissa Martin helping and some other volunteers jumping in.
4. **Cabin.** We've traditionally had folks there 9:00-11:00 on those Saturdays. Volunteers: Ron Jan. 10. Gail Jan. 17. Katherine Jan. 24. Nicole Feb. 7
5. **Lamoille River Paddlers.** They're forming, want to get together a map of this section of the Lamoille with interesting sites. They're talking about having a meeting in Hardwick that Ron will attend. Jon Jewett talked with Ron about a possible campsite at the Pest House. (article attached to hard copy)
6. **GMTCC Meeting.** Based on the recent meeting Eric had with Ben Notterman, we have similar issues to resolve that we have had in the past regarding continued expansion of the sugaring, logging, etc. We see these activities differently. In the past, there was an attempt to create a Memorandum of Understanding that did not get to fruition. Currently, Ben has not found the time to meet with us; understandably, he has been very busy. Meanwhile, we don't have an agreement, and we haven't had a face-to-face to express the way we see things and to establish some protocols. It seems that the Hazen Board is not playing a role as landowner. If we can draft something with Hazen the landowner, then we can go to GMTCC. Now is the time to set the stage for how we go forward. Eric and Ron will set a meeting with the principals. We would like the opportunity to present the characteristics that a successful trail would have these characteristics. We should perhaps entertain a third-party contracted forester. Eric has a friend who is a professional forester or our county forester Matt Langlais.
7. **Financials.** Eric on the Select Board has been trying to clarify the money that the Trails Committee can roll over by creating a line item in the capital fund. Town money should be your annual operating budget. If there is anything left over, it should go back to the general fund. For this year, on June 30, anything that's left goes into the capital fund. Thereafter, only what we raise will go into the capital fund; anything else will go back into the general fund.
8. **Snowmobile.** The committee approved spending the money to buy the module to get it running.
9. **Recreation Trails Grant.** Due Feb. 2. The maximum this year is \$50,000, still with a 20% match. Eric will pursue it and needs to know our priorities. Last year's theme was improving the ski-

ability of the trails. They denied it because of the snowmachine, and that could jeopardize it again.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Trecartin

Next Meeting: 5:30 PM, February 2, 2015, at the Memorial Building.