

**MINUTES**  
**Trails Committee**  
**June 1, 2015**

Attending: Norma & Ron Wiesen, Wayne & Lenore Renaud, Dave Mitchell, Chris and Katherine Ingram, Sue Trecartin, Eric Remick

1. **Trails Condition.** Wayne started work on the trailhead—a new ditch on the side walking up; he has eight pipes ordered. The culvert at the top of the trail will come out, and a smaller pipe will go in there. Yesterday, he raised all the sap lines to enable mowing. **An attractive new bench near the brook will need to be moved aside in winter for trail grooming and the apple tree planted in the trail needs to be moved to a different spot. Dave will talk to Jim Raas about moving the tree.**
2. **Financials.** As of 4/30 we had \$6106.36. Wayne has put in time sheets and ordered pipe but we don't have the bill yet, some tractor work, so we have in the vicinity of \$5,700 less the pipe. At the end of June, any money left will be swept into a capital account for our use, but not in the future. The goal is to get the budget to be strictly an operating budget. If that works as it should, at the next meeting we should start talking about raising funds for a new Skandic. If we get the grant, we will have money to hire a professional to work with the appropriate machine on the mountain bike trail.
3. **May 4 Minutes.** Ron moved and Chris seconded. Approved.
4. **Hazen School Board.** We have a meeting date of June 22. Eric plans to meet with Ben beforehand. We need to establish an updated Memorandum of Understanding so that we have something to refer to. The parties have changed. The Forestry Program is out of GMTCC, not Hazen. Hazen owns the land. We formed a subcommittee consisting of Eric, Dave, Chris, Norma and Sue to craft what we will bring up at the meeting. We need to get on Hardwick Electric's agenda, too.
5. **Mountain Bike Report.** Matt Jerome cut a huge double-trunk hemlock—thank you, Matt! Dave raked the entire upper trail above the sugarhouse. They're scheduling work days. Chris sent an email and posted on Facebook page; Saturdays 8:00 to noon, once a month. Wayne mentioned the power wagon we discussed at the last meeting. It would be a good idea to rent one to see if it's something we want. Opening Day Event: on hold to discuss in August, dependent on summer work. Dave and Chris went on a ride to see what Dave has cleared that will easily be improved upon and expand the offerings. This summer's goal is to make what we have safe, ride-able and sustainable. Out toward the gravel pit is ideal land for more trail, but we need to have a conversation with the new Shepard landowner, Nancy. Chris will spend small money on pin flags and a clinometer that costs around \$100. Pump track progress at Atkins Field has become a subject among single-track people. Eric will ask about material and let Chris know.

6. **Coin Drop.** Set for July 11, 9:00-11:00. Volunteers include Dave, Lenore, Wayne, Ron. Six people are needed, and Norma will call members.
7. **Signage.** Lenore showed us the sturdy new signs. (The music department will get the students to take down the ruined installation before the end of school.)
8. **Bridge Building.** Jim Raas and Dave Mitchell are coordinating this student project, taking care of some muddy spots. We appreciate it.
9. **Recreation Coordinator.** Ron passed out copies of a graphic (attached to paper Minutes) that shows all of the volunteer organizations involved in recreation in the town. The ideas generated by these people are incredible. Ron will request a part-time coordinator at the meeting on June 10 with all of the groups. Some of the organizations have some money, others have places for events, etc. If we can get them all working together, they would really multiply any recreation effort. Any remaining funds that the Rec Committee has not spent will go back into the budget to start a position fund for office space and a phone line to create a calendar, communication, maybe four hours a day.
10. **Pumpkin Walk.** Free refreshments from Hall's Market and free pumpkins from High Mowing were huge gifts but are a thing of the past. Our bill last year was \$1,200, and we need to start now to see how we can reduce it. For pumpkins: Lenore has lots of pumpkin seeds with no place to plant them. Ron talked to teachers at Hardwick Elementary and to Sarah Waring at the Center for an Agricultural Economy that might have two-three patches that have been planted. Cecile Lariche might contract for us. Last year, we got them from Wadell's, pie pumpkins of an ideal size, 300 at \$2.00, and they delivered! Norma will call Wadell's to see if they are willing to supply them again. We need to ask for donations from: Norma—Village Market and Topps, Sue--M&M Beverage, Eric—Buffalo Mtn. Co-op, Helen--Cold Hollow. We need to bring answers to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Trecartin

**Next Meeting:** July 6, 2015, 5:30 PM, at the Cabin.