

**HARDWICK TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

**Monday, February 10, 2025, 5:00pm
GMTCC Forestry Classroom**

In Attendance

Corey H, John T, Wayne R, Helen B, Norma S, Joe N, Eric R, Lauren H, Andy G

1. Adopt January Minutes

Unanimous consent

2. Updates

- a. Kiosk installation (Helen)** - Maxfield almost finished, waiting for better weather
- b. Trail conditions (Wayne)** - Good! New snowmobile stuck, Wayne to dig out
- c. Ski program (Helen)**
 - i. 3 Sat. lessons finished so far with good attendance, one more coming
 - ii. March 15 event w/ bus to Craftsbury Outdoor Center
 - iii. Maxfield working on building ski racks
- d. Publicity (Lauren)**
 - i. Instagram gaining followers
 - ii. If anyone has good photos, send to Lauren to publish
 - iii. Town has new social media policy that will be announced soon (Eric)

3. Financials (Norma S)

Big expenses last month in equipment repairs (snowmobile). Waxes & waxing equipment also a notable expense. Andy will pick up waxing supplies from Craftsbury Outdoor Center tomorrow.

4. Groomer Decision (Eric)

Tabled discussion until Spring. Committee will continue to investigate by demoing more equipment and researching options.

Points raised in discussion:

- Old skidoo is problematic. Options considered to move forward are: 1) dedicated groomer, 2) new skidoo, 3) UTV w/ tracks.
- SnowRabbit works great but does not necessarily save time, and costs much more than the current budget, without considering annual maintenance (which also might be significant)
- Grooming used to be done with UTV but had constant problems, got stuck
- Concern about winter overshadowing other seasons in budget
- May be opportunity to partner with Forestry program to help groom by snowmobile (Corey to follow up)

5. Unleashed dog policy review (Helen)

- Positive feedback from dealing with recent incident, dog in question has been seen now leashed
- Town has dog leash policy that trails must follow

6. Friends of Jeudevine “Snow & Show” (Helen)

March 2, will need volunteers to help organize / lend equipment @ 1:30pm

7. VMBA Membership - Dave & Steve will continue to pursue

8. VT Trails & Greenways Council Membership

Motion “to join VT Trails & Greenways for \$50” (John). Adopted.

(Eric and Norma S will follow up.)

9. Other Business

a. Parking at GMTCC building (Corey)

Trails visitors cannot park there during school hours. Before/After/Summer OK.

This policy needs to be published.

- Lauren to put on social media
- Dave M. to put on website
- Corey to put up sign

b. “Dare to be Me” - Asked about wear on trails. Suggest to use snowshoes?

c. Snowdog leaving impression on double track trails - Helen will follow up with rec committee for better coordination

d. Hazen Wellness Program - Will be using snowshoes. Discussion of ways to make borrowing snowshoes easier for other visitors.

e. Question about why Hardwick Trails not on state parks list of XC ski rentals

- Limited rental window on Saturdays

f. Decided to continue meeting at 5pm instead of 5:30pm.

10. Adjourn 6:20pm

Next meeting: March 3, 2025 @ 5pm