

PHP Meeting Wed August 26, 2020 on Zoom

Draft Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 pm

A motion to elect Rick Mills to be a Prospect Hill Trustee was made, seconded and passed.

A motion to accept Betsy Whittaker's resignation as a Prospect Hill Trustee was made, seconded and passed.

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2020 meeting was made, seconded and passed.

The trustees continued the discussion of plans to mow Prospect Hill

Debbie Brookes has agreed to allow town access to PHP for mowing this summer on the condition that she be notified in advance of the schedule and that she be present when the crew is on her property. It is agreed that the stone wall be put back in place and the land left minimally disturbed.

The need to have permanent access for annual mowing of PHP was seen as a priority for the trustees. Potential access points will be explored on the ground. If appropriate access is found PHP trustees will broach the subject of permanent access with the landowners prior to the next PHP meeting.

Update on Missing Links Project

The goal of the Missing Links Project is to connect trails in Dummerston with the Putney Mt. Trail System in the north to Prospect Hill near Dummerston Center, to the Black Mt trails further south. Once complete, it will provide 55 miles of continuous trails from the Marina in Brattleboro to Grafton.

The first phase of the project establishes a trail corridor from Prospect Hill north to the Putney town line and conserves 55 acres of prime wildlife habitat. The Missing Link project volunteers have gained access to nine private properties through the generosity of the landowners. To gain access two of these properties required purchase. One has been purchased and PMA is in the final stages of fundraising for the second one.

Trail construction began in earnest this summer with over 300 hours of work completed by the volunteer trail crews. About 750 feet of side hilling was done on steep areas. One and a quarter mile of trail have been completed heading north. It begins near the end of Hague Road at the proposed off-road parking area. This on the Putney Mt. Association land recently purchased located on the north side of Hague Rd at the end of the town road. The DRB has meet and reviewed our application for a small parking area and signage. A decision will be made in the first two weeks of September.

Trail work continues this weekend south of Hague Rd. Next year the plan is to complete the additional 2-3 miles of trail all the way to Prospect Hill.

We have an outstanding and enthusiastic trail crew doing excellent work. Given that we have miles to go to complete this Missing Link trail, more crew members would be welcome. Contact Richard Fletcher, Trail Crew Chief at [rafletch5@gmail.com](mailto:rafletch5@gmail.com) if you'd like to help build trails.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm

#### Attendees

Maria Glabach, Terry Carter, Jerelyn Wilson, Ed Anthes, Carolyn Mayo-Brown, Rick Mills, Paul Normandeau



View from the recently completed Panorama Trail section on the Missing Link Trail looking south down on Black Mt. in the center and the West River and West Dummerston village.