

CGCT Meeting 01/14/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:13 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: Chris Ebstein, Ric Conradt, Jim Webster, Dean Briggs, Frannie Hodge, Paul Dakai, Ray Stowell, Bill Latimer, Gloria Parkinson. Laurie called to say that she cannot attend. Asked that Gloria and Jim drop off any handouts for Evelyn.

Reviewed Minutes from December meeting

Motion: Motion to accept December meeting minutes as amended (edited participants) was made by Paul and seconded by Ric. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report – December 10, 2019

Jim reviewed the treasurer's report and provided summary of new members and donations

Motion: Paul made a motion and Ric seconded that we accept the treasurer's report for January. Passed unanimously.

T-shirts

Chris distributed the Lauren Ebstein designed shirt for review.

Pricing is based on volume. Extra cost for the logo on the sleeve.

- \$7.50 per shirt for 75
- 7.25 for 100 \$725.00
- \$6.75 per shirt for 150 \$1015.50

Chris will check on pricing with some additional vendors.

Ric will check if Richard Freel has some additional contacts

Colors – Chris will do a mock-up with colors.

Subcommittee Updates

Trails

- Frannie provided an update from the Trail committee and activity and budget related to the MassTrails grant application
- Chris provided an update on her participation in the Montachusett Regional Trails Coalition January meeting
- New developer for the Woodlands, Rick Roper. We will meet with him to discuss trails and access.
- Discussion of trails around Clamshell Pond and Woodlands area.

Events / Annual Meeting /

- Freedom's Way – suggestion to walk the Rail Trail on the Rauscher Farm side. This event is in May, so good timing to gain support for the trail acquisition. May 30th will be our date, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Rain date on May 31st 1:00-3:00 PM. We will use any funds from Freedom's Way on mailing and advertising.
- Annual Meeting – we should have the financial details by the end of February
 - Annual meeting date – June 9th (Town Meeting is June 1st)
- Rauscher Farm Rocks is May 16th 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Rauscher Farm Volunteer day on Saturday, May 9th

Rauscher Farm Management Subcommittee

- Accessible Trail / Bathroom etc.
 - ADA State representative said that the town will be able to apply for funds (Municipal ADA grants), if things are lined up. (need to build up points system).
 - ConsComm and Russ have agreed to go back to the original route. ConsComm has \$4,000 for Rauscher Farm. ConsComm has agreed to use this funding toward a trail design
 - Idea would be to get a plan this year and apply for additional grants next year.
- Wetlands on Rauscher Farm - Russ Karlstad indicated that a new wetlands mapping is required. David Cowell offered to do it pro-bono.
- Dates for Spring events will be reviewed at RFMS meeting tomorrow.

Motion made by Gloria and seconded by Bill that we adjourn at 8:46 PM. Passed unanimously.

CGCT Meeting 03/10/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: Chris Ebstein, Ric Conradt, Dean Briggs, Frannie Hodge, Paul Dakai, Bill Latimer, Jim Webster, Gloria Parkinso

n Reviewed Minutes from February meeting

Motion: Motion to accept February meeting minutes was made by Gloria and seconded by Dean. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report – March 10, 2020

Jim reviewed the treasurer's report.

Motion: Paul made a motion and Gloria seconded that we accept the treasurer's report for March 10, 2020. Passed unanimously.

Frannie made a motion that we pay the STV invoice for \$23,216.00 for the tunnel inspection and Ric seconded. Any discussion? Discussion: Bill asked where it would be paid from. We agreed that Jim will document the funds as being from the CFNCM first and then the rest from the Clinton Home Foundation. Passed unanimously.

Events

Mass Land Conservation Conference – 3/28/20

Several of us are planning to participate. If it isn't canceled.

Family Fiesta, Thursday, 4/30

Gloria and Jim may be available for the event, but we should plan on staffing without Gloria and Jim. We have enough interest to support the event. Gloria will forward the registration form to Chris to complete. We will confirm CGCT participants at the next meeting.

Annual Meeting 6/9/20 (Tuesday)

We will have refreshments. The meeting will be a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Clinton Greenway Conservation Trust, Inc. Charter members and the select board will be invited. May be some follow-up discussion on the rail trail depending on the town meeting vote.

Rail Trail Walk 5/30

Chris registered the event with Freedom's Way. We qualified for the \$250.00 in funds. This will pay for a mailing. Send a save the date to the membership list.

Subcommittee Updates

Trails

Tunnel inspection report was discussed as well as the strategy on the acquisition.

Gloria thinks that the primary question will be related to the maintenance of the tunnel and the trail.

Long discussion related to things that we need to be prepared to address.

Select board is sponsoring the article. Frannie will ask if they want to review the tunnel inspection.

Select Board had not asked for any details about the ongoing maintenance of the tunnel and trail.

Other discussion on the trail committee was related to informational meetings or details on the warrant article.

The warrant article will be reviewed by town counsel in April.

T-Shirts

Chris did several options of color combinations. Black / Berry are liked by all. The printing will be in white. Chris will proceed with an order.

Laurie made a motion and Ric seconded that we authorize Chris to order 100 T-Shirts at \$7.50 each. Unanimously approved.

Website – Progress

Chris has been working with WordPress on web development for our web site.

Chris is planning to add the membership form as an online form with online / electronic payment.

WordPress allows one administrator, but other options for contributors to the site.

Gloria has .pdf of the Rauscher Farm events. May events are registered with Freedom's Way. Gloria had not applied for the funding, but will, based on encouragement from the group.

We own the clintongreenway.org domain again. We will use clintongreenway.com on printed material this year.

Laurie suggested adding the date and time of our meetings to the web site.

Membership Drive

Frannie will send out reminders to members whose membership is expired.

Jim will send the updates on memberships to Frannie to compare against the list.

Olde Home Day

Gloria wants to reserve two booths

Rauscher Farm Management Subcommittee

Gloria has some updates on the events that were circulated at the last meeting. She is working with Rosa Kairit and Nicole Melone (part of the match stick / community garden). Second Time Around project. Gloria wants to ask for grant funding to pay Nicole to manage the project.

Gloria has made a motion and Laurie seconded that Gloria will apply for grant funding for the CGCT to fund for the Second Time Around Art project on Rauscher Farm to fund the art consultant who will manage the project. Passed unanimously

Motion made by Laurie and seconded by Dean that we adjourn at 8:59 PM. Passed unanimously.

CGCT Meeting 04/14/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Gloria Parkinson, Jim Webster, Chris Ebstein, Ric Conradt, Dean Briggs, Frannie Hodge, Paul Dakai, Laurie Giovannucci, Ray Stowell

Reviewed Minutes from March meeting

Motion: Motion to accept March meeting minutes was made by Paul and seconded by Laurie. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Treasurer Report for April 14, 2020

Motion: Laurie made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Ric Seconded. There was no discussion. Passed unanimously.

Events:

Rail Trail Walk 5/30 (rain date 5/31) - The Freedom's Way has cancelled, but they said if we have expenses we've incurred, we can still submit them. They just won't be supplying booklets, postcards & signage.

Annual Meeting 6/9 (second Tuesday of June)

Reports

CGCT Trails Committee - Frannie Hodge Warrant Article for Tunnel Meeting – submitted to Mike Ward for review with Atty Gibbons.

- Tunnel Inspection – Follow-up with STV
- Draft Material – Overview of the rail trail project for various audiences
- Updating phase 1 budget based on up to date information

Membership Drive - Frannie Hodge

- Frannie is tracking the current membership, which is 55 at the moment
- Discussed an operating budget and the number of members required to support the operating budget
- Discussed ideas for attracting and retaining members

Rauscher Farm - Gloria Parkinson

- Lots of interest in visiting the farm
- Some events are canceled or postponed
 - May is canceled
 - TBD after that
 - Art project is canceled
- Port-o-potty will not happen this year

Other:

New website – Chris is working on the website in Word Press. Not ready to share.

- Will include online membership, donation, T-shirt, other ways to raise funds
- Rachel (environmental scientist) – organizations should have the ability to sign up online. We are missing out on people who would be interested
- Lauren is interested in assisting Chris.

T-shirts - on order.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ric and seconded by Laurie at 8:21 PM. Passed unanimously

CGCT Meeting 05/12/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:11 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Gloria Parkinson, Jim Webster, Chris Ebstein, Ric Conradt, Dean Briggs, Frannie Hodge, Paul Dakai,

Reviewed Minutes from April meeting

Motion: Motion to accept April meeting minutes was made by Paul and seconded by Ric. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Treasurer Report for May 12, 2020

Motion: Paul made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as amended. Gloria seconded. There was no discussion. Passed unanimously.

Agenda

Trails Committee update - Frannie Hodge

Frannie provided an update for the Trail Subcommittee

Warrant article for the rail trail will be reviewed at the next select board meeting, so Frannie is planning to join the meeting. Several presentations of the project are planned over the next several weeks.

Rauscher Farm Update - Gloria

Story walk May through November. Jim and Gloria will set it up

Jim, Gloria and later Ric witnessed some graffiti artists under the bridge over the rail bed at Clamshell Road. Discussed the idea of making it an official aerosol art site.

Problem of people visiting

Mowing the trails will help with directions.

Dean noted how much improved some of the areas of the farm are.

Discussion of birds and other wildlife in the area. Ric saw a female hooded merganser on the Maffei property. Jim and Gloria have seen the ducks and their offspring as well as nine turtles.

Events:

Rail Trail Walk was planned for 5/30 (rain date 5/31) - The Freedom's Way has cancelled, but they said if we have expenses we've incurred, we can still submit them. They just won't be supplying booklets, postcards & signage. We will tentatively plan the walk for the last weekend in June. Walk on Saturday, June 27th, with Sunday as a rain date. If town meeting is going to be earlier, we can do the walk on 6/20.

Annual Meeting was planned for 6/9 We will set the date after we have more information on social distancing.

Other subjects:

Website progress

Subcommittee of Laurie, Ric, Chris, and Rachel has worked on this previously.

Chris shared the progress that she has made with website development

We agreed to restart the subcommittee for the website:

- Frannie and Ric volunteered to assist.
- We will also ask Ray so that we have his expertise for linking in the GPS functionality to the maps (Ric also has expertise in this area and volunteered to coordinate with Ray.
- We will find out if Laurie still has interest in participating

Membership ideas

First fundraiser of 2020: T-shirt sale?

- Yes, T-shirts since that is something that we can do now.

PR

Targeting during Covid-19 may be a challenge

We can do some press releases or letters

Post to “you know you’re from Clinton if...”

Reach out to the Item? Jan may be the only paid employee now

Some locations are not currently open for hiking.

The overall idea is more around promoting the organization and all our activities and not just the warrant article for the rail trail.

Our 20th Anniversary as an incorporated non-profit may be a good excuse for a celebration.

Stream Team

Rebecca Longvall has expressed interest in cleaning up the area around the Nashua River, Counterpane and other waterways. Frannie has invited her to participate in our meetings. This might be a way to revive our “stream team”.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ric and seconded by Jim at 8:45 PM. Passed unanimously

CGCT Meeting 06/09/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Gloria, Jim, Ray, Paul, Chris, Ric, Dean, Deb, Dan, Laurie

Agenda

Reviewed Minutes from April meeting

Motion: Motion to accept May meeting minutes was made by Paul and seconded by Ric. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Treasurer Report for May 12, 2020

Motion: Gloria made a motion to accept the treasurer's report with the correction to the CGCT checking account total. Laurie seconded. There was no discussion. Passed unanimously.

Trails Committee Update – Frannie

- Warrant Article for Town Meeting - warrant number TBD. Town Meeting on 6/22 at Town Hall. 7 PM
- Overview presentation of the project has been developed for various audiences
 - o Presented to Rotary Club of Nashoba Valley on 5/21
 - o Presenting to Discover Clinton on 6/18
 - o Meeting requested with Jamie Carr to bring him up to date on plans
- Trail Walks
 - o Assessment with Dick O'Brien on Friday, June 12, at 1 PM. Frannie will notify the Rauscher Farm Management Subcommittee
 - o CGCT sponsored walk on 6/20, 1 PM
- RTP Funding – this is the federal funding for recreational trails.
 - o Letter of support from CGCT

Motion: Frannie made a motion and Gloria seconded the that the CGCT provide a letter of support

Rauscher Farm Update

All events are canceled

Putting on the barn two programs:

- Conservation on the farm
- In your own time activities, such as geocaching.

Story Walk is up. Tons of cars and children the first weekend that it was open.

Lot of work from the Forest Stewardship plan

- Two sections of land
- Opens some space. Removal of invasive species. Dean and Ray and Jim provided the sweat equity
- Bobolinks need 10 acres. Gloria saw one yesterday
- Wire fencing – needs to be taken away

ADA accessible trail

- Proposal from DJ and Associates. An updated site design for the trail. Recently accepted by the Conservation Commission. Jim referred to the lumber in the financial report which is part of the path. Some of this is now mowed. Providing an appropriate path for people to use.
- Dave Sadowski needs an updated wetlands survey
- Dave Cowell will do the wetlands survey on Saturday.
- All of this must be accomplished with an invoice date by June 30th.
- \$2,000 first payment has been made.
- This will provide an up to date site design and up to date wetlands survey
- This is a full trail design, not just site design.

Bee aware program

Start a Subcommittee whose purpose would be to create opportunities to "green-up" Clinton. Here are some examples:

- Chris had been thinking about this for a while, and then we were contacted by Rebecca Longvall, who had a similar idea. Here is the idea:
- Replace trees along streets that used to have them. [helps to save the planet by absorbing carbon and promotes biodiversity]
- Find open, unused spaces where we could get permission to plant pollinator gardens.
- Hold an annual plant sale of pollinator plants.
- In order to get participation, we'd need new members. It seemed like a project that a lot of people would appreciate and get excited about. We'd have to advertise for members of this new subcommittee and see what happens.
- Lincoln Conservation Trust and SVT both have strong pollinator programs. Here's some reading for background...

<https://www.svtweb.org/creating-places-pollinators>

<https://lincolnconservation.org/pollinators/action-plan/>

Ideas for getting support for this project:

- Email members
- Newsletter
- Share information at sponsored events
- Posting to "you know you're from Clinton if..."

Urban and community forestry may have "resources" to support this type of activity.

"In protecting, ... and growing trees..."

The activity should be coordinated with economic development to ensure the success and alignment for the program.

Cleanup the waterways

- Making sure that area is "overseen".
- Does signage help address the issues? Other communities have nice signage around waterways, we could do something like this.
- DPW has typically been helpful in carting away trash that we collect.

Additional discussion on areas that need to be cleaned up.

We would like to plan a cleanup for later in the year. Maybe August? Depending on distancing requirements. Follow the state's phased opening schedule. Do it as a substitute for Olde Home Day. Town Cleanup at a few locations. Olde Home Day would have been Saturday, September 12th. 10 AM to 1 PM. Pick a few locations:

- Rauscher Farm
- The rail trail
- The River
- Counterpane Brook
- Partner with Parks and Recreation and Olde Home Day Committee

Another great idea from Rebecca - Pollinator garden on the JFK property. Dean mentioned that the former Gene's Auto is now owned by the town

Annual Meeting was planned for 6/9 We will set the date after we have more information on social distancing.

Membership

- Chris has updated the membership form
- Frannie has updated the membership list (renewal membership was from Chris).

Fundraisers

- T-shirts can be sold with social distancing

Motion to adjourn was made by Ric and seconded by Dean at 8:38 PM. Passed unanimously.

CGCT Meeting 07/14/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Gloria, Jim, Paul, Deb, Chris, Ric, Ray, Dean, Frannie, Laurie for part of the meeting

Reviewed Minutes from June meeting

Motion: Motion was made by Paul and seconded by Dean to accept the June meeting minutes as amended (“support” was not spelled out). No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Treasurer Report for Jul 14, 2020

Motion: Made by Frannie and seconded by Paul that we renew our Mass Land Trust Coalition membership at \$100.00. No discussion. Passed unanimously

Motion: Motion to accept the Jul 14, 2020 treasurer’s report was made by Gloria and seconded by Ric. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Motion: Gloria made a motion to accept the revised June 8 treasurer’s report, Ric seconded. There was no discussion. Passed unanimously.

Trails Committee update - Frannie Hodge

Frannie reviewed the trail committee action plan – highlight below:

- Warrant Article for Town Meeting for Town support of the acquisition of the rail trail passed
- Frannie reviewed the project with Jamie Care on June 18th. He has some suggestions and feedback
 - Jamie is ok the historic plaque. We should proceed with this
 - Jamie linked in Kathryn Parent to review the historic write-up. Frannie will follow-up with Kathryn.
 - Jamie mentioned that bikes are not allowed beneath the dam and that MWRA may have some say on traffic on River Road. This means that bikes would come in at the gate at the end of Grove Street.
- Assessment with Dick O’Brien on Friday, June 12, at 1 PM – walk of the MCRT was completed with Dick. He also walked around Rauscher Farm and returned later to walk some more.
 - Dick provided a write up on the Rauscher Farm Trails which will be reviewed by the RFMS
 - He wants to incorporate the VHB assessment in his write-up for the MCRT. I asked him to proceed as the feasibility study does not provide much.
 - Dick is willing to meet with our group in the Autumn when the leaves are down. This would be a great opportunity to engage boy scouts and other volunteers.
- RTP Funding – Letter of Support was approved at the last meeting.
 - Frannie provided a draft to Chris
 - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5797?r=115&s=1>
- MCRT
 - Planning to meet with Woodlands developer to discuss that end of the trail.
 - Frannie was invited to a MassTrails meeting on July 16th. The MCRT, trails funding and other items are on the agenda.
 - Darlene Ligor from Pan Am Systems called this week to request an update.

Rauscher Farm Update – Gloria

- Rauscher Farm Management Subcommittee report. Gloria will not comment on it until the RFMS has reviewed it at their meeting tomorrow
- Invasive species clearing by Jim Webster, Dean Briggs, Ray Stowell, Dave Notaro

- Fully developed plan for the ADA accessible trail will be reviewed by RFMS tomorrow
- Getting a lot of promotion on social media for the farm
- Dean – we are making some progress in changing the landscape
- Looking at the field between the Notaro and Grant households as a field to be dedicated to pollinator plants.
 - Deb – orange trumpet flowers near Deb’s barn attract hummingbirds.
 - Gloria asked Deb to schedule some time to review what she knows about the field.
- Additional items to enhancing the habitat from the forestry management system.
- Jim – everybody proposes different uses based on their areas of expertise (i.e. bees, birds, they see what is best for their favorite species).

Website

- Chris has not made progress on the website
- Maps and content development are needed for various sections
 - Short blurbs at the first link
 - Then can add more of a blog kind of a post for more detail
- Chris will send out some homework assignments with a deadline
 - Chris already has a word document format for some of the material
- We had reinstated the web committee at the May meeting – Ric and Frannie volunteered and Laurie agreed that she would like to continue to participate on the committee.
- Chris will reach out to Lauren E for advice on setting up the eCommerce as she has done this before. Frannie volunteered to help once we have some direction. There is a free eCommerce plugin with WordPress that we may be able to use.

Voicemails and emails:

- Voice mail from Alexandra Turner looking for support for her campaign for state representative. Alex has been active in the Lancaster Land Trust
- Voice mail from an insurance agent looking to promote planned giving with our donors. Frannie had a brief conversation with him and will forward details to the board on his program.
- Chris got an email from Janet White
 - She is part of a football organization - the Massachusetts Pirates a professional arena football team. They play at the DCU Center. Julia Burkhardt, director of community outreach was on contact on the message.
 - They are looking for a place to volunteer and perhaps get some promotional benefit.
 - Gloria also heard from Janet White and shared that Janet and her husband are interested in Rauscher Farm

Cleanup Clinton Day – Saturday, September 12th - 10 AM to 1 PM.

We would like to plan a cleanup for later in the year. Maybe August? Depending on distancing requirements. Follow the state’s phased opening schedule. Do it as a substitute for Olde Home Day. Town Cleanup at a few locations. Olde Home Day would have been Saturday, September 12th. 10 AM to 1 PM. Pick a few locations:

- Rauscher Farm
- The rail trail
- The River
- Counterpane Brook
- Partner with Parks and Recreation and Olde Home Day Committee

Annual Meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, September 8th at 7 PM.

- Notices will go out in mid-August
- We will ask for RSVP to the meeting and provide Zoom details to the folks who have RSVP’d.
- Frannie will setup the Zoom for this meeting.

Membership

- Chris has updated the membership form

- Frannie has updated the membership list

Fundraisers

- T-shirts can be sold with social distancing
- eCommerce capability on our web site will help.
- We talked about the chili cookoff and decided that it would probably not be a good idea for this type of event this year.

Notes from previous meeting on our new subcommittee.

Start a Subcommittee whose purpose would be to create opportunities to "green-up" Clinton. Here are some examples:

- Chris had been thinking about this for a while, and then we were contacted by Rebecca Longvall, who had a similar idea. Here is the idea:
- Replace trees along streets that used to have them. [helps to save the planet by absorbing carbon and promotes biodiversity]
- Find open, unused spaces where we could get permission to plant pollinator gardens.
- Hold an annual plant sale of pollinator plants.
- In order to get participation, we'd need new members. It seemed like a project that a lot of people would appreciate and get excited about. We'd have to advertise for members of this new subcommittee and see what happens.
- Lincoln Conservation Trust and SVT both have strong pollinator programs. Here's some reading for background...

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<https://lincolnconservation.org/pollinators/action-plan/>

Ideas for getting support for this project:

- Email members
- Newsletter
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Urban and community forestry may have "resources" to support this type of activity.

"In protecting, ... and growing trees..."

The activity should be coordinated with economic development to ensure the success and alignment for the program.

Cleanup the waterways

- Making sure that area is "overseen".
- Does signage help address the issues? Other communities have nice signage around waterways, we could do something like this.
- DPW has typically been helpful in carting away trash that we collect.

Additional discussion on areas that need to be cleaned up.

Another great idea from Rebecca - Pollinator garden on the JFK property. Dean mentioned that the former Gene's Auto is now owned by the town

Motion to adjourn was made by Gloria and seconded by Ric at 8:25 PM. Passed unanimously.

CGCT Meeting 10/13/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Chris, Jim, Paul, Ric, Gloria, Dean, Frannie, Rebecca, Gloria

Reviewed Minutes from August meeting

Motion: Motion was made by Gloria and seconded by Paul to accept the August meeting minutes. No discussion. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Minutes from Annual meeting

Motion: Motion was made by Dean and seconded by Jim to accept the Annual meeting minutes as amended. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Treasurer Report for October 13, 2020

Motion: Motion was made by Paul and seconded by Frannie to accept the October 13, 2020 treasurer's report.

Motion: Motion was made by Dean and seconded by Frannie to reimburse Jim for \$241.64 in expenses.

Jim forwarded details of the latest spreadsheet earlier this evening.

The \$5000 match will apply to memberships, donations for the trail, and other unrestricted donations to the CGCT.

Agenda:

MassTrails Grant and related updates

Frannie provided an update on the MassTrails grant and next steps, including budget and timeframe, as well as marketing the project.

Grant:

- All volunteers need to track their time on the project as this is part of our match. Amanda has provided the tracking sheet
- Grant initiation form has been submitted
- Grant agreements completed by CGCT and Clinton
- We need to keep all records for 7 years
- Appraisal – Foster & Company have been notified; Ken Croft will do the work. Ken has been introduced to Chris McGown

Trail workshop with Dick O'Brien

- Trails subcommittee will reach out to Dick for potential dates
- Trails subcommittee will reach out to members, scouts, and local service organizations for interested participants
- Large section of protected habitat where RFMSC does not allow trails was reviewed via map
- Rough outline of the RFMSC approved trails is the map on the web site.

Marketing and related activity

- Write-up for the North Dike kiosk is approved. We need to make final updates and print
- Plaque for the milepost
- Presentations to local business organizations – Discover Clinton

Rauscher Farm Update - Gloria Parkinson

- Working with WPI on the community / civic project
 - 2 students working on a proposal – focus on the declining number of native bees.
 - Project runs from October to April
- Dean and Gloria completed a bee workshop

- Path to Clamshell Pond has not been reviewed by ConsComm, but it is in progress. It will be on the agenda for their October meeting. Facilities director, trail designer, will participate
 - RFMSC may propose a warrant article for next town meeting related to the trail
 - RFMSC feels that the first step is to ask the town for funding
 - We reviewed the map of the trails on the farm for context
- Sweat equity on Rauscher from the Massachusetts Pirates football team organization. They did not show for scheduled activity and have not heard from them since

Town is planning to auction 64 Plain Street

- Ask the select board about their plans at the October 21 meeting
- We will need to have to ask Michael Ward to put this on the agenda
- Auction is planned for November 13th.
- Frannie will reach out to Michael Ward

For the Event: Saturday, October 17th - Greenway CleanDay – Counterpane area

- Bring pruning shears
- Parking – Chris will ask Clinton Savings Bank about parking at their facility.
- Rain is forecast for October 17th – 70% on Friday and 80% on Saturday
 - We will plan to meet at Parks & Rec and 10 and figure out from there if we can proceed with any work
- Gloria and Jim have a package of 18 water bottles. This should be enough.
- Use small trash bags as if you fill a big bag it breaks
- Potential trash vehicles
 - Steve Gabis pickup
 - Dean
 - Frannie (don't forget the shower curtain)
- Drop off trash at DPW
- Return cups to Dunkin Donuts 😊

Holiday Cards

- We need a new card
- Ideas for photos
 - Front photo of the rail trail
 - Photo shop on a train engine
 - Historic photos of the railroad.
 - Inside photo of Rauscher Farm
- Dunn & Company has provided good pricing for large volumes
- Mailing list is approximately 200
- Send photos, examples, ideas to Chris

Network for Good – they would like to present to us. Network for Good publishes a calendar where we can select a date and time to meet with them. Frannie will check available times and determine when we have enough people interested in participating. This is simply an informational session.

- Frannie will check their c

Motion to adjourn was made by Gloria and seconded by Paul at 8:51 PM. Passed unanimously.

CGCT Meeting 11/10/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Chris, Jim, Ric, Frannie, Gloria, Paul, Dean, Noah

Reviewed Minutes from October meeting

Motion: Motion was made by Paul and seconded by Ric to accept the October meeting minutes. No discussion.
Passed unanimously

Reviewed Treasurer Report for November 10, 2020

Motion: Motion was made by Gloria and seconded by Paul to accept the November 10, 2020 treasurer's report.
Passed Unanimously.

Agenda:

MasTrails Grant and related updates

Chris is working with MRPC Trail Committee is submitting something. Chris is supposed to submit something to this group by Thursday. Richard Kerver is submitting on behalf of this committee. Frannie to provide something to Chris on our plan.

Frannie provided an update on the MasTrails grant and next steps.

Grant:

- Appraisal – Ken Croft of Foster & Company is working on the appraisal. He has coordinated with Chris McGown on mapping requirements. Appraisal will be complete by the week after Thanksgiving.
- MasTrails has indicated that it will take 1 week to review and approve the appraisal
- Next step will be to close on the property and secure the tunnel
- Frannie to follow-up with Jane Innamorati on assigning our rights on the acquisition to the Town of Clinton. Pan Am needs to know who will sign for the Town. Frannie will check with Michael Ward on this.

Trail workshop with Dick O'Brien

- Dick has provided potential dates.
 - Friday 11/13, 11/16 & 17, 11/23, 11/24 are possibilities at 10 AM or 1 PM
 - We should keep the group relatively small to allow for physical distance
 - Frannie will follow-up with the group on best time and participants
 - Ric asked for a summary of what we will do during this workshop
- Trails subcommittee will reach out to members, scouts, and local service organizations for interested participants
- Large section of protected habitat where RFMSC does not allow trails will be reviewed with Dick ahead of the workshop
- Rough outline of the RFMSC approved trails is the map on the web site.

MassDot Feasibility study of the Central Mass Rail Trail from Belchertown to Hudson

- Feasibility study has been released and is available of public comment until 1-December-2020
 - <https://www.mass.gov/mass-central-rail-trail-feasibility-study>
- Frannie will draft a response for CGCT and distribute to the group for review
 - There are a few items where we have better or updated information that we will include in our comments
- A formal presentation of the study is planned for the Moving Together conference. The session on this topic is on DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 - CONCURRENT SESSION #4: 10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Session 4D – Mass Central Rail Trail Feasibility Study ***OFFICIAL PUBLIC LAUNCH***

- Register for the conference at <https://www.umasstransportationcenter.org/assnfe/ev.asp?ID=4451>
- MasTrails recently completed a feasibility study of the 68.5 mile mid-state section of the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT), mapping the entire corridor in the field utilizing the latest in smart tablet GPS

technology. Moving beyond feasibility, the panel will also discuss potential project implementation based on its findings and connections to existing trail segments.

Rauscher Farm Update - Gloria Parkinson

- Path to Clamshell Pont. Not technically a trail. It is a “pathway”
- Town approved a plan for the CGCT to submit a grant application for this project several years ago
 - Issue of bang for the buck - too expensive for its length
 - Rejected twice
 - Various iterations – back to the same route. New design plan. ConsComm funded the plan to be completed at the end of June last year.
- ConsComm reviewed the plan at the 10/21/20 meeting. Discussion about the design with Dave Sadowski and Russ Karlstad, facilities director. David Cowell also volunteered his expertise as a wetlands surveyor. A new wetlands survey had to be completed.
 - Revised design reviewed by ConsComm
 - ConsComm job is to protect wetlands. Idea was that “reclamation” of wetlands in the center of the field would be sufficient for the exchange for wetlands that the path will take
 - ConsComm view is that “additional” wetlands area has to be part of the design.
 - RFMSC will review a revised plan this week
 - RFMSC is proposing a warrant article for funding for this trail. They will likely approach the select board on this.
 - Hopefully, after Wednesday, 11-November, the RFMSC will have an updated plan to share
- Funding from Clinton Cultural Council – Gloria wants to apply for a grant
 - Last year Rauscher Farm Rocks was approved
 - New deadline is December 14th
 - Application goes in the name of CGCT
 - Gloria wants to re-write the grant for this program. Date must be included in the application. Plan would be same time as what was submitted last year.
 - This is a matching grant, usually \$250.00

Motion: Motion to approve that Gloria apply for a grant to the Clinton Cultural for a program on Rauscher Farm was made by Frannie and seconded by Paul. Motion passed unanimously.

Holiday Cards

- Donor cards – we do not have enough. We have 129 donor cards. We will need some additional donor cards.
- We have enough of the outer envelopes
- We need to order the cards and donor cards
- Fifty fifty split between CGCT and CGCT-Rauscher Farm fund for the expense

Motion: Motion made by Gloria and seconded by Frannie that we approve funding for the cards, not to exceed \$500.00. Passed unanimously.

Fund raising ideas:

- Paul is looking into creating a craft beer for a fund raiser
 - Similar to the Barb’s beer idea.
 - Check out Barbsbeer.org
 - Distribution is a key issue
- Selling a branded coffee
- Wrapping paper
- 50/50 fund raiser
 - Senior center has a “calendar” donation idea
- Virtual run
- GoFundMe page – this is the easiest and most lucrative
- In person kind of event – we will get back to this. We should think about this.
 - We can do the chili cookoff again
- Beer in the barn (no electricity)

- Join at a certain level and get invited to a small, special event
 - Preservation Worcester did events in old and abandoned locations
- Holiday Cards – this does bring in money

Town is planning to auction 64 Plain Street

- Asked the select board about their plans at the October 21 meeting
- Auction is planned for November 13th.
- Potential buyer is interested in donating part of the parcel to CGCT

Motion to adjourn was made by Frannie and seconded by all at 9:18 PM. Passed unanimously.

CGCT Meeting 12/08/2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM by Chris Ebstein.

Participants: via Zoom, Chris, Jim, Ric, Frannie, Gloria, Paul, Dean, Deb, Laurie

Reviewed Minutes from November meeting

Motion: Motion was made by Laurie and seconded by Ric to accept the November meeting minutes as amended. No discussion. Passed unanimously

Reviewed Treasurer Report for December 8, 2020

Motion: Motion was made by Laurie and seconded by Ric for Jim to pay the open invoices.

Motion: Motion was made by Laurie and seconded by Dean to accept the December 8, 2020 treasurer's report. Passed Unanimously.

Agenda:

MassTrails Grant and related updates

MassTrails Grant Award

- Track your time – Tracking document
- Grant Initiation Form
- Appraisal complete and approved by Amanda. The appraisal is a requirement of the grant.
- Assign our rights to Town of Clinton – review with Jane
- Closing details
 - Signatory for the town
 - Sean Kerrigan will sign
 - Robert Gibbons, town counsel, is reviewing the documents
 - Closing can be completed via US mail.
- Pan Am Closing documents are with the town
- Town will likely want the funds prior to the closing
- Review the interactive parcel map issues with David Baird
 - May still check with Dave
- BoD will convene a meeting to approval the funds

MassDOT feasibility study

- Presentation at Moving Together Conference – happy talk
- Public Comment - complete

Budget

- Challenge is that the grants are on a reimbursement basis

To do for the grant

- Updated quotes on fencing
- Think about the signs for the gates
- Three signs for now
 - Tunnel Closed Pending Repairs
 - Safety message – “No Trespassing / Police take notice”
 - Chris' picture. You are here marker. Each end of the tunnel
- DCR required signage in the Spring
- Get some news coverage / social media coverage that the tunnel will be closed
 - Post notices on sites where people may learn about the tunnel

- Hidden New England
 - T&G
 - This can also push traffic to our web site
 - Wait until its closed to post this information
- Any announcements / openings / press, we need to acknowledge MassTrails grant and let Amanda / Libby know

Other to dos

- Conservation Restriction that shows that CGCT has the trail development rights
- Reach out to Fisheries and Wildlife
- Reach out to ConsComm

Trail workshop with Dick O'Brien

- Dick has provided potential dates for a return visit to Clinton.
- Frannie was unable to coordinate for this November, so we will try again in the Spring.

64 Plain Street

- Who acquired it from the town?
- Was our potential donor successful?
- Another wetlands area, so need to have input from Conservation Commission on any trail development plans

Rauscher Farm Update - Gloria Parkinson

- Funding from Clinton Cultural Council
 - Last year Rauscher Farm Rocks! was approved
 - The \$250 award for 2020 is approved to be used in 2021.
 - New deadline for 2021 grants is December 14th
 - The request will be for a woodlands program – a Walk in the Woods of Rauscher Farm
- Pathway to Clamshell Pond
 - Facilities director, Russ Karlstad has moved on.
 - Town building committee approves projects, so they may need to review the path to Clamshell Pond. Not technically a trail. It is a “pathway”
- Pollinator garden – Gloria has reached out to Rosa, Parks and Recreation to brainstorm on possibilities

Holiday Cards

- Ready to mail
- We pulled the names of recent donors to send a thank you with their card
- Chris shared the names of the Facebook donors. There are a few that we do not know

Websites

- Laurie asked about the websites. .org and .com sites should use the same site and content.

Motion to adjourn was made by Laurie and seconded by Ric at 8:26 PM. Passed unanimously.