

Squannacook Greenways, Inc. | May 2025 Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Attendees

Directors

Peter Cunningham, Linda Mack, Bill Rideout, Emma Grazier, Joan Wotkowicz, Frank Murphy, Rick Bailey, Dale Gates, Mark Cram

Guests

Kym Craven, Bruce Easom

Agenda

0. Guest Speaker

- Kym Craven to discuss potential collaboration with Townsend Rec and Townsend Lions Club on a bicycle repair project

1. Project Updates

Groton Extension:

- Updates?

Townsend Harbor:

- Trestle bridge repairs
- Other updates?

Townsend Extension:

- Updates on application filed with Greystone Realty?

2. Maintenance & Events

Maintenance:

- Fence-building work day rescheduled for Saturday, June 14
- Dumpsters behind Townsend Harbor shopping center (update?)
- Complaints about dogs off leash
- Other?

Events:

- Debrief: Earth Day Fair (Saturday, April 26, 10-3)
- Reschedule Trail Walk w/ Shlomiya Lightfoot from InLand
- Girl Scouts Bike Rodeo (Thursday, June 19)

3. Grants

- Wild & Scenic Grant closeout

4. Financial & Fundraising Reports

- Need new authorized signer on Workers CU account

- Insurance policy update

5. Review [April Meeting Minutes](#)

6. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjourn

Notes

Meeting called to order 7:07 PM

0. Guest speaker - Kym Craven (TEO)

- TEO looking into applying for bicycle-related grants
 - Example 1: Money for bicycle repairs for income-qualifying individuals (identified by TEO, Senior Center, Townsend Rec, schools, etc.)
 - Example 2: Economic development grant for bike kiosks along rail trail that people can rent with a credit card and take between Groton (Groton Inn, Ace Hardware, etc.) and Townsend (Apple Meadow)
- Is SG interested in (1) giving a letter of support for grants and/or (2) interested in collaborating on the grants?
 - Board discussion: Yes, we are interested in providing a letter of support and helping to advertise on our listserv. Less interested in actually coordinating the repairs - would prefer to focus our time/effort on expanding the rail trail.
 - Bill Rideout moves to ask Peter Cunningham to draft letters of support for any grants related to the above on behalf of Squannacook Greenways.
 - Dale Gates seconds.
 - All in favor - motion passes.

1. Project Updates

Groton Extension:

- Peter to alert (1) Dillis & Roy and (2) Groton CPA Committee about changes in scope of services due to difficulties obtaining freight rights.

Townsend Harbor:

- Gary placed an oak surface and pressure-treated railings on the two trestles in Townsend Harbor.
- Town finally received a valid bid for the MassTrails grant to (1) build the sidewalk between the Harbor Church and the Harbor lights and (2) improve safety in the intersection! Work began this week.
 - We will need to push the town to obtain new signage (e.g., "Watch for bicycles") once the project is complete.

Townsend Extension:

- Greystone Realty says it will take four to six months to review our application for the Townsend extension. No freight easement issues on this section.
 - Peter to share the application with the Board, if possible to retrieve from Greystone's web portal.

2. Maintenance & Events

Maintenance:

- **Fence-building Work Day:** Rescheduled for Saturday, June 14
 - Discussion about Order of Conditions deadline: Joan found a file stating that we received an extension until July 22, 2025. Joan to share this file with Bill.
 - Bill to double-check w/ Colby on expiration date.
- **Dumpsters** behind Townsend Harbor shopping center: Reports of trash overflowing.
 - Peter sent an email to Summit Associates. It seems like the issue might be cyclical - not too bad at the moment.
- **Dogs off-leash:** Bill received a call from the Townsend Animal Control Officer because she has received some complaints about dogs off leash on the trail.
 - Next time we purchase signs and/or design a new kiosk, we will make sure to have a sign that reminds people to keep dogs on leash.
- **E-bikes:** Peter wondered if we've been having issues with e-bikes speeding (has been happening on Nashua River Rail Trail).
 - No issues observed by board members.

Events:

- Debrief: Earth Day Fair (Saturday, April 26, 10-3)
 - Mark, Bill & Cheryl attended. Cold and windy.
- Reschedule Trail Walk w/ Shlomiya Lightfoot from InLand
 - Emma to invite her to attend the work day on June 14 to discuss opportunities to plant native plants along the trail.
- Girl Scouts Bike Rodeo (Thursday, June 19)
 - Bill to contact Irene to make sure the event is still on, then will spread the word to the SG mailing list.

3. Grants

Wild & Scenic Grant:

- We used all the money! Mark spent the last ~\$250 on lumber for a future kiosk.
- We need to share photos of the fence with Lucy when it's complete.

4. Financial & Fundraising Reports

Financial Report:

- Bill presented financial report.
- We renewed our liability insurance - about \$1,500 per year, \$900 of which is required by our lease.
- Bill moved to replace Joan with Linda as a signatory on the WCU account.
- Joan seconded.
- All in favor - motion carries.

Fundraising:

- Linda suggested adding "donate now" with QR code to any signs we add to a kiosk.

5. Review April Meeting Minutes

- Joan moves to approve
- Linda seconds
- All in favor - motion carries

6. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjourn

- Next meeting: June 25 at 7 PM

Meeting adjourned 8:07 PM