

**New England National Scenic Trail
Landowner/ Trail Protection Committee- CT
November 2, 2009
Meeting Notes**

Introductions: Janet Brooks, Lynn Charest, Carl Arsenault, Doug & Mary Lou Millet, Francis Pickering, Clare Cain, Eric Hammerling (Doug Pelham not present)

NST & Trail Stewardship Council Update

• **Subcommittees:**

-Executive, Advocacy & Outreach, Community Connections, Trail Mntc & Mngmt, Trail Use

• **MA meeting:**

-Hosted by AMC colleagues in Amherst. Very well-attended. Similar subcommittees were defined

-Parallel work, sharing of ideas between committees

• **NPS updates**

-Logo & brochure- NPS in-house graphic designer

-Small grants program to possibly fund initial projects this coming year

-CCS funding (1:1 match)

-Currently working on details of a CFPA/NPS Coop Agreement

-Standardizing Signage: MA DCR guidelines offer a great foundation for moving ahead w/ sign standards for the trail

Committee Work

• **Blueprint for Management: *Landowner Issues & Trail Protection* sections**

-provides guidance of how we might proceed and what we focus on

• **Priorities/Committee Work**

-Lynn Charest agrees to fill Rep/Committee Chair for the TSC

-Focus on connecting with land trusts and larger landowners along the Trail's length

-Review the website for the possibility of creating a landowner page w/ options and info

-Review the Landowner Options Booklet: offer ideas/edits/improvements for next meeting

-introductory letters were sent to adjacent LO's a few years ago inviting them to info meetings/ more recently invited to the TSC meetings: create follow-up letter??

-letters to towns w/ map of Trail/GIS layer in their area. CFPA intern has begun some of this. Follow-up as needed.

-newsletter will be sent to all trail constituents on NST news: committee will include a landowner section. Website

-J. Brooks will review current CFPA Agreement template/ might be able to simplify the document.

-Possibly host hikes in the landowner's area and send them a special invite. Hikes would be followed w/ more info on how they can preserve their section of trail or potentially host a section of trail. Maybe connect a landowner info meeting w/ another local meeting that already exists.

• **Create committee mission**

-will re-visit at next meeting

• **Who else should join us?**

-Who do we want to reach out to: Town Conservation Commissions, regional planning commissions, town developers, CT Association of Zoning Enforcement officers, town planners & land trust staff

Next Meeting: Monday, December 7 @ 5pm

**New England National Scenic Trail
Landowner/ Trail Protection Committee
December 7, 2009
Meeting Notes**

NST & Trail Stewardship Council Update

- **NPS updates**
Executive Committee will be meeting in January—date still to be determined. Siting Council will begin meeting w/ presentation.

Committee Work

- **Priorities/Committee Work**
 - Landowner Page on NST Website
This is top priority for the committee- many ideas generated for page content. Clare will begin drafting and will share draft w/ committee for input.
 - Landowner Options Booklet/Brochure
Committee will pursue a brochure/booklet once the webpage gets off the ground...and when we can determine a printing budget
 - Hosting an NST/ Land Trust meeting
Will host this meeting at CFPA w/ area land trust staff invited, along w/ conservation committee members, open space committees, & RPA's. February is desired month for meeting. Agenda to be finalized at next meeting.
 - NST e-Newsletter
First newsletter will go out this week. It will be an outreach vehicle for the committee as we move forward. Possibly link to other on-line newsletters
 - Landowner Hike Series
Invitation postcard will be sent out. May, June, October Landowner Appreciation Hikes w/ post-hike event.
- **Other**
 - CFPA intern
Update on intern's progress

Next Meeting: Monday, January 11th @ 5pm @ CFPA

**New England National Scenic Trail
Landowner/ Trail Protection Committee
January 11, 2009
Meeting Notes**

Committee Work

Landowner Page for NST Website

Reviewed and shared ideas for landowner page content & layout. Clare will circulate for further discussion. Final draft of landowner page for next meeting to share w/ MA.

NST/ Land Trust meeting

Committee decided to host 2 meetings: one geared toward land trusts and one geared toward municipal staff and larger landowners.

Meeting Dates: March 9, 2010: Municipal Meeting (10:00a-12:00p)

March 15, 2010: Land Trust Meeting (6:30p-8:30p)

Municipal Meeting Notes: invite town planners, chairmen of land use boards, zoning enforcement officers, parks & rec staff, other.

Possible topics: updating landowner database, subdivision regulations, review map of current trail protection, trails & economic development, Yale intern report, grants available thru the NST designation, other

Land Trust Notes: invite land trust staff/volunteers adjacent to trail corridor, other

Possible topics: what landowner agreement options exist for the NST, how do we share resources & information about potential land protection adjacent to the trail, sharing our GIS trail line w/ land trusts, who should hold a trail easement, testimonials of private landowners w/ trails on their property, other

Other

-CFPA intern

Update on intern's progress

Next Meeting: Monday, February 8thth @ 5pm @ CFPA

**New England National Scenic Trail
Landowner/ Trail Protection Committee
February 8, 2010
Meeting Notes**

Municipal Meeting

What is our goal?

To promote inter-town sharing of information & experience & to raise awareness for the trail

Who do we invite? (town planners, chairmen of land use boards, zoning enforcement officers, parks & rec staff, other)

Possible topics:

- updating landowner database
- subdivision regulations
- review map of current trail protection
- trails & economic development
- Yale intern report: POCD & subdivision regulation
- grants available thru the NST designation

Land Trust Meeting

What is our goal?

Invite land trusts to work with CFPA and be involved in our trail protection effort.

Who do we invite? (land trust staff/volunteers adjacent to trail corridor, other)

Possible topics:

- what landowner agreement options exist for the NST
- how do we share resources & information about potential land protection adjacent to the trail
- sharing our GIS trail line w/ land trusts
- who should hold a trail easement
- promoting trail continuity and quality
- testimonials of private landowners w/ trails on their property

Meeting Dates: March 9, 2010: Municipal Meeting (10:00a-12:00p)

March 15, 2010: Land Trust Meeting (6:30p-8:30p)

Other

-CFPA intern update: Liz Thomas is continuing to research town and zoning regulations that effect the trail. She recently gave a presentation to her class on the project and will also present at the upcoming Planners meeting.

Landowner Page for NST Website

Reviewed and shared ideas for landowner page content & layout. Clare will circulate for further discussion. Final draft of landowner page for next meeting to share w/ MA.

Next Meeting: April 20th, 5pm @ CFPA