

WELLESLEY TRAILS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 5, 2026

Attendees: Chair - Ezra Englehardt, Steve Park, Rick Mongeau, Dennis Hemmond, William Grace and Jack Gilboy.

Guests: Tom Kaiser

Location: Police Station – Kingsbury Room

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Citizens Speak: None

Minutes for January 5, 2026 -

- Tom Kaiser, citizen, would like to create a single file trail along Dover Road, on the side of the traffic barrier, to connect Brook Path to Sudbury trail so people do not need to walk/bike on the road with traffic.
- It would require first trimming back the brush to expose the path, then creating some sort of barrier (tree limb, etc) and fill the walkway with wood chips or some filler material
 - Questions: Who owns it? Wellesley College, but there may be a right of way that is owned by the town
 - Could it be an Eagle Scout project?
 - Can we connect to Sheila Page and Complete Streets? They extended the sidewalk, but couldn't go further because of landownership
 - R. Mongeau to talk to Sheila Page. T. Kaizer is happy to assist. E. Englehardt will connect R. Mongeau and T. Kaizer.
- **Minutes:** December minutes approved E. Englehardt to send to NRC to post on the website.
- **NRC Update:**
 - Study on Wights Pond donation to town complete. Feasibility of a trail in this area - very expensive, ADA compliance, walkways, etc. more than the town would ever undertake for a trail - could be a path/bench but not an addition to the trails network per se.
 - Complaints about dogs at Morses Pond and Centennial, not under voice control. Dog officer visits regularly. NRC may fund increased visits but not doable with Wellesley PD.
 - Could there be designated times for off leash / on leash?
- **Mass Bay Walks - Revisit at February meeting**
 - Icy conditions may make it dangerous
 - Spring walk flyers ready to go. R. Mongeau to start distributing once we confirm parking for the last walk (by end of January) - Greg Bruell, Hanes property management - parking not confirmed for final walk. J. Gilboy to follow up.
 - R. Mongeau to add to NRC Education contact Lisa Moore's newsletter in March
 - R. Mongeau asked that the W list our walks higher up, approved
 - E. Englehardt to share walks with PTOs and to get walks on Wellesley Media bulletin
 - R. Mongeau to ask Le Petit Fours (Local Bakery) about putting flyer in the window
- **New laminated maps (Steve Park)**
 - Added QR code, Charles River Link Trail, requested additional maps (need 30)
 - Budget increased by \$250 to \$712.77, approved unanimously
 - Rock Ridge map house repair will commence once maps are done
 - E. Englehardt to follow up on stair project
 - J. Gilboy to takeover Laura's dog bag dispenser
 - E. Englehardt to merge dog bag tracking list with trails assignment spreadsheet
 - Changes made to Trail monitor and map house/dog bag spreadsheet, please review and flag any that are incorrect, or if you would like to relinquish responsibility
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- **New wall/driveway at Waterstone** - right through the Schuler path, Wetlands Protection Committee, NRC following it closely. It was approved by water department, but never went before Wetlands Committee
 - Notice of violation, remediation underway, they know they cut off a trail, exploring options for putting a trail back in. Stone is now behind the wall, WPC may plant bushes for erosion control and to direct people back onto the correct path
 - Where could it be relocated? As many members as possible should visit the wall/site and send feedback to NRC / WPC sooner than later.
 - E. Englehardt to draft letter to Waterstone on the impact / need to continue to honor John's legacy

Adjourned – 8:00 PM