

**Minutes**  
**Trails Advisory Committee**  
Wednesday, June 07, 2017  
at 7:00 p.m. Municipal Office Boardroom

**Members Present**

Joan Barton  
Mary Barker  
Dale McCrea  
Mike Peters  
George Stewart

**Staff/Advisory Members Present**

Shannon Hunter, CAO/Treasurer  
Joanne Vanier

**Guests**

Dave Lloyd (Pres. HCSA)  
Tom Nicholson (Sec. HCSA)  
Bruce MacDonald

**Regrets**

Dave Burton  
Peter Wood  
Brian McKinlay

1. Call to order – 7:10 PM
2. Disclosure of pecuniary interest – None
3. Adoption of agenda: Moved by: George, Seconded by: Mike
4. Adoption of minutes: Moved by: Mike, Seconded by: Dale
5. Welcome guests  
Dave Lloyd, President of HCSA  
Tom Nicholson, Secretary of HCSA  
Bruce MacDonald (assisted with Waltham trail expedition)
6. Items arising from previous minutes  
Council approve the purchase of five copies of “The Old Prospector’s Guide, Rocks and Minerals” from Ann Binsken-Buchan. Joanne will acquire them.
7. Report on Waltham Trail Expedition -Dale  
A team went out on May 8, 2017 and travelled the trail on ATV and by foot. The trail is high and dry from Essonville down to the Wild Cat Trail.  
There is a section past McCrea Rd where it was not passable with the ATVs and it was approached from both directions and the centre section travelled by foot. Waypoints were marked on the GPS along McCrea Rd at survey stakes.  
There is a swamp at the base of Grass Hill Trail. When travelling Grass Hill, several places the team veered off the trail onto private land to get around ponds. These areas would need culverts and fill. Dale recommends we return in the fall to map it again when the trail has dried up more. Joanne will use the files from the GPS and plot the trail to determine if there are any issues relating to private property.  
  
As a side note, George has a CD of maps dating back to the 1870’s he will bring in for us to copy.
8. Moved by Mary, Seconded by George  
The Municipality of Highlands East thanks the Ontario Four Wheel Drive Recreationists for cleaning up a dangerous wrecked car on the Dillman Hill trail. Mary will send Joanne a bread crumb trail of Dillman Hill trail to determine if there are any issues relating to private property.

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9. Cycling Update from MTO and MTCS Ministers  
EOTA is watching closely as there will potentially be grant money coming in the next two years for recreational cycling trails. This could apply to our roads and mixed use trails. The grant will focus on tourism and linking communities. Cyclist, as with hikers, are looking for loops to travel. Committee members are encouraged to consider who could join the committee who is involved in cycling.
10. TRAFx Trail Counters have been dug out of storage and are available to be deployed. It was suggested that until a specific need for stats on a trail presents itself, that counters be placed:
  - 1 - Homesteader Trail on the IB&O near the old highway
  - 2 - Prospector Trail head past the Wilberforce school
  - 3 - Prospector Trail near the new section of trail off Loop Rd across from the Sucker Lake trailJoanne will aim to have these in place for July 1<sup>st</sup>.
11. Supervisor examined the Wild Cat trail. There are a few areas where pooling of water in the spring is an issue. At one point he found that the neighbouring swamp water level was higher than the trail. Improving this area would mean raising the trail about 18 inches for a quite a stretch. Another area lies at the bottom of two hills where a driveway also drains down to. Ditching beside the trail is not an option because it is too rocky. At this point the Trails Committee is satisfied the Wild Cat Trail meets our needs as a trail for recreational use.  
  
Jim Alden will be asked to attend the next meeting to report on trails.
12. There is no update on Farr Rd Walking Trail. Shannon has not heard back from the MNR and will follow up.
13. Review Water Trail –Carried Forward to next meeting
14. The May Geocaching Anniversary event went well with over 40 people in attendance. We now have a Celebrity Cache, placed by Jonny Harris of Still Standing. The next challenge will be to approach others (Rick Mercer?) to place caches with our assistance.
15. The GeoTour now has 115 caches and will increase with another set of caches being published in July.
16. Next Meeting: July 5, 2017
17. Adjournment – Moved by: Dale, Seconded by: Mike