

- Call to Order: 5:00pm
- In Attendance: Jeremy Litchfield (chair), Blaine Moore (secretary), Michael Halmo, Mike Ferry, Caleb Chang, Bobin Park, Timothy Carr, Nathaniel Shed (town council), Dennis Wilson (town arborist)
- Quarterly Newsletter
 - Discussion on content and photographs in the newsletter, with the following updates:
 - Bog bridging should list “linear feet” in the news notes
 - The yellow box call-to-action on page 2 should be updated to reference the next Spring Cleaning (details below)
 - Change out a few photos, to be forwarded to Bobin, specifically using Mark’s bog bridging photo instead of the current unattributed one, and a photo of the winter white pine pruning rather than last year’s chestnut planting
 - Including photo credits for each image highlighted in the newsletter
 - **MOTION:** Tim motioned we approve the newsletter with the above changes (Mike seconded), **unanimous approval**. Bobin will make the requested changes, Dennis will act as the last editor, and it should be published in the first week of May.
 - Dennis has a store of photos and other digital assets on a protected town server, but there was discussion about finding a solution to make it more easily accessible to committee members (specifically for photos) for projects such as the newsletter and our annual report. Potential options discussed (but would have to be approved by the town first):
 - Continue sending the files to Dennis, and individuals working on a project can bring a USB drive to download an archive of photos any time they need them.
 - Setup a Dropbox or Google Drive or similar cloud storage location where committee members could have access
- Cleanup Day:
 - The Spring cleanup day tends to be a trash cleanup along Route 123 where people dump their garbage out of their vehicles in the Winter months.
 - Scheduled for May 31, 2025, from 9am to 11am, to meet at the parking area on Harpswell Rd.
 - Jeremy will setup a flier advertising the date and distribute to local businesses, Bobin will include the information in the Spring newsletter, and Caleb will post it at the high school.
 - Cleanup days for the Town Commons do count towards community service hours for the high school.
- Middle Bay Rd Work: Middle Bay Rd will be seeing some road improvements in the near future. Dennis will report on any planned improvements, though we are past the design phase where we could make any additional recommendations.
- 2024/25 Budget:
 - The new sign for the parking lot island is ordered and will arrive in approximately 1 month.
 - Dennis will order plants for the parking lot island in 2 weeks.

- We need to determine the date for chestnut sapling pickup; multiple volunteers available.
 - Remaining budget requests need to be made within the next month if anything comes up, or else the remaining budget will be spent ordering posts in the middle/end of May.
- 2025/26 and Future Budget Considerations:
 - Brief acknowledgement without discussion of:
 - New Trail Signage (large cost)
 - Trail Map Redesign (minimal cost)
 - Updated Natural Resource Inventory/Management Plan (large cost)
 - Accessibility Assessment (low cost)
 - General Maintenance
 - Chestnut Saplings (low cost)
 - Goat Trail Adoption (unknown cost pending DEP report)
 - DEP will inspect the trails 3 times to inspect vernal pools throughout the season
 - 1st inspection is this Friday (April 17, 2025)
 - We should have an idea of what will be reported by the end of May
 - Discussion was had on requesting temporary budget increases in future years when it comes time for the two large budget expenditures above (new trail signage and management plan.) We followed a similar plan with the bog bridging, though that budget request was rolled into the Parks & Rec budget.
- Trail Mapping: Mark and Jeremy will meet soon and we are on schedule for a September vote.
- Trail Conditions: The trails are currently in good shape and fairly clean. The peepers are enjoying the season.
- Greater Commons Update: The bridge near the dam is going to be replaced with a larger one that will not need to be replaced when the dam is removed and water levels change. No further details at this time.
- Public Comment:
 - Thomas Carhartt (PhD geo sciences) of Everett St. joined us with a few environmental questions related to the environment and human influence:
 - Are we involved with the Climate Action Plan and have any influence on it?
 - Are we aware of the town's use of road salt, and has there been any discussion on the city using alternatives that are less harmful to the environment?
 - Are we aware of why the trees were removed for the sidewalk renovations on Maine Street?
 - Brief discussion on relevant committees and Town Council members for Thomas's questions and for future discussion where relevant for the Town Commons.
- Meeting Adjourned: 5:39pm