

**Minot Forest Committee
Meeting Minutes 12.9.19
Wareham Town Hall**

Present:

Sandy Slavin, Angela Dunham, Judy Weatherby, Linda Scharf (MFC)
Mike Perrin, (Terra Corp-Buzzards Bay Coalition)
Eric Boyer, Conor Michaud, Eamon Horrigan (Wildlands Trust)
Nancy McHale, (Wareham Land Trust)
Michael McGuire, Garry Buckminster, (Wareham DNR)

Open meeting: 1 pm

10.10.19 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved: 3-0-1

There was no November meeting, because there wasn't a quorum.

A discussion amongst MFC members, Wildlands Trust/Terra Corps representatives, WLT's Nancy McHale and DNR reps to suggest changes, upgrades and improvements to Minot Forest so that the public might more easily engage with the forest.

Suggestions included:

Mapping the trails with GIS or other system, closing and/or simplifying forest trails adding mapboxes, regular trail maintenance, adding benches, dead/hanging tree removal, collaborating with Wildlands Trust. Additionally, new signage, trash barrels, trails and parking areas cleared, adding blazes and trail head markers, kiosks for trail maps, standardization of signage (Village Sign suggested), and applying for MA Trails Grant were discussed. A plan for engaging volunteers and community collaborators is mentioned.

Noted: Town equipment is generally available in Winter/Fall.

Trails can be named after Minot Family members.

Trails: Complete A, V and Q. Eliminate trails S, J, X, M, N. Eliminate dead-end trails and create loops. Evaluate trails A, S, H, I, U, Q.

Parking: Bryant Farm near Nessrella's. Connections may be made across Rt 6 to Minot Forest. Train track crossings should be eliminated. Crosswalks encouraged, discuss with road commissioners? Re: Indian Neck Rd, Dr. Stillman Dr. Pullover spots to be identified and established. Stone dust and bluestone will be added to cleared parking areas.

Garry Buckminster and Derek Sullivan will apply for \$100,000 MA Trails Grant by Feb 2020. There is likely a 20% match with CPA funds.

Terra Corp Engagement will return in Jan 2020 to assess forest and investigate how suggestions might be implemented. (Terra Corp ends in July, starts again in Sept.)

Terra Corp will send draft of forest observations by about Feb 1 2020.

\$8500 available for Minot Forest parking lot.

MFC voted 4-0-0 to request that Mary Bruce be new liaison.

Meeting adjourned: 3:15pm

Next meeting scheduled for Jan. 9, 2020

*approved 4-0-0
Linda Scharf, clerk 1.28.2020*

