MASSACHUSETTS RECREATIONAL TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD
MARCH MEETING - MINUTES
January 14, 2026
Remote Meeting
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Members Presents:
Marianne Iarossi Co-Chair – Statewide Land Conservation Organization
Larry Tucker – Snowmobilers
Stephanie Giguere – Climbers
Bill Boles – Mountain Bikers
Shelby Aquadro – Equestrian
Liz Johnson – Trails
Joe Geller – Rail Trails
Mike White – Full Size 4-Wheel Driving
Dave O'Neil – Skiers/Snowboarders
Meg Bandarra – Universal Access
Sarah LaValley – Municipal (Trails) Planning
Kathy Baugh – Community Trails and Greenways Groups

MassTrails:
Amanda Lewis – DCR MassTrails
Fiona Riley – DCR MassTrails
Lupe Garcia – DCR MassTrails
Jeff Mast – DCR MassTrails

Meeting start: 3:05pm

I. Welcome – Marianne

II. Approval of October 2025 minutes
- Joe motion for Oct minutes.
- Larry second.
- All in favor with exception of Meg.

III. MassTrails Conference Update
- Conference update - no conference in 2026. To occur in Fall 2027.
    i. Due to budgetary concerns and DCR Trails staffing.
- Smaller events instead throughout the year (4x) celebrating trails.

IV. MassTrails Grants Update & Primer, to include:
- Grants - 2/2/26 applications due.
- Reminder/primer on scoring process and rubric for upcoming grant cycle.
    - Presented changes/clarification for discussion (accessibility scoring).
    - Lots of accessible trails discussion happening at DCR.
    - Trails for All report at the end of Jan/Feb

- Clarified scoring of accessibility criteria:
  - Shared that DCR will score the Accessibility criteria 0-10
    a. Include adaptive mountain biking into scored accessible trails
    b. Now FSTAG compliant, adaptive mountain bike standards compliant, and water trail standards compliant
- Inclusion of accessibility into the experience criteria:
  - Above and beyond as an accessible trail, for example braille and/or audio tours for the sight impaired, additional mapping and safety measures for water trails.
  - Motorized opportunities incorporating accessibility for people with disabilities.
  - For other natural surface trails, getting people into new ecological environments and enhancing their experience through features such as interpretive signage.

- Discussion re: Transportation Bond Bill (recreational trails) and state funds (shared use paths).
- Natural surface, long distance, not accessible: Appalachian Trail, Midstate Trail, Bay Circuit Trail, Mohican-Mohawk Trail, New England Scenic Trail

V. Next meeting: Quarterly Grant Review Meeting on Saturday, March 7th

Meeting adjourned