Friends of Goodwin Forest

Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2026

Present: Linda Wenner, President, Stan Crawford, Vice President, Dave Fowler, Treasurer, Emily Logee-Savoie, Secretary, Bill Marshall, Charlene Fuller, DEEP Supervisor of Education Michael Ross, CFPA Executive Director Joey Listro.

Minutes of May 26, 2026, reviewed and motion moved to accept as presented.

DEEP Update: Mike Ross introduced himself and let us know he wants to maintain Goodwin programs and expand them, hopefully returning to where it was in the past. Unfortunately, staffing restrictions influence what can be accomplished at Goodwin, and trying to gain the community back with seasonal employees is a challenge. He said there are also Connecticut Traveling Educators, who go to parks, libraries, and camps, who advertise Goodwins' mission. They provide outreach to communities across the state. Both Goodwin's program numbers and the CTE are going to be combined, for they are utilizing the Goodwin fund to provide this, as education was Mr. Goodwin's wish. Mike went on to say he wants to mend the divide between the friend groups and the state and asked the Friends of Goodwin to advocate for a full-time position at Goodwin. He would like for the Friends to form a partnership and do events, maybe starting one in the fall, to bring in the community. Friends can help in the planning and suggestions for whom to utilize in the community, provide information, activities, and partner with tabletop activities.

Treasurer Report: Joey Listro handed out the transaction report and balance sheet for review. According to CFPA, the Trail Run raised $1,864.78 and our checking account balance is $59,498.70.

CFPA: Joey reported that the Master Woodland Manager program is graduating 60 members. There is a next round coming up that has already received 70 applicants. He reported for Clare for trails, that work is going strong from the storms on July 4th, a lot of damage in parts of the state. The team spent time at Goodwin and Natchaug. Linda reported that there are trees down across the red trail that need to be addressed. Stan will inform Gabe to get it done.

2026 Goodwin Forest Trail Run: Bill reported that they had 191 runners for Trails Day. He noted that the registration fee was the same as last year, but all other costs went up, so the committee will have to look at this for next year. He noted he got a positive response from the running community regarding the trail run and that the volunteers did a fantastic job. He expressed thanks to CFPA for keeping track of all of the information. Bill also noted that the trail run is a community event for Hampton and Chaplin as well as Goodwin.

Membership Renewal: Linda reported that toward the end of the year she will have the membership campaign ready to send out via USPO to the list that CFPA generated of members. Joey reported that CFPA will generate a list of dual and single membership.

Non-profit status: The Bylaws were reviewed with a minor change to section V111, for the 501©(3) status. ByLaws will have a vote for adoption at the nest meeting.

Trail Map Update: Linda and Stan have completed 9 of the 12 placements of the maps into the kiosks. A big thank you to CFPA/Clare for printing of the new maps.

Glen Newcombe Bike racks: Linda touched base with the company and if we can order more racks the price is reduced. We have money in the fund, so a motion was passed to do 4 racks. She will touch base with Matt Quinn on where they can be placed.

Donation: Linda reported that a donation in memory of Lois Kelley, former Goodwin Educator, received in the amount of $250, from her daughter Diana Kelly. It was suggested to touch base with Steve Broderick to see how that can be utilized.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm.

Next meeting is **September 29, 2026** at 1pm at Goodwin.

Respectfully submitted by Emily Logee Savoie