

# Eastern Trail Alliance

## 2020

### Annual Meeting



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## Campaign status in a nutshell

### Close the Gap: South Portland– Scarborough

1.6 miles– completes critical off-road section.

Final design and permitting completed.  
Project in appraisal stage.

**Next Steps:** Pending regulatory approvals, construction bids, and award anticipated during 2021.

**Result:** 16+ miles of connected off-road trail connecting Bug Light in South Portland to Thornton Academy in Saco.

### Over the River . . . : Saco–Biddeford

3.1 Miles– completes critical off-road section.  
Strong local support.

Links ET segments between Saco and Biddeford.

**Next Steps:** Biddeford, Saco, and ETMD plan to submit a Planning Partnership Initiative request to MaineDOT to cover study cost.

**Result:** 25+ miles through 7 communities.

### . . . And Through the Woods: Kennebunk–South Berwick

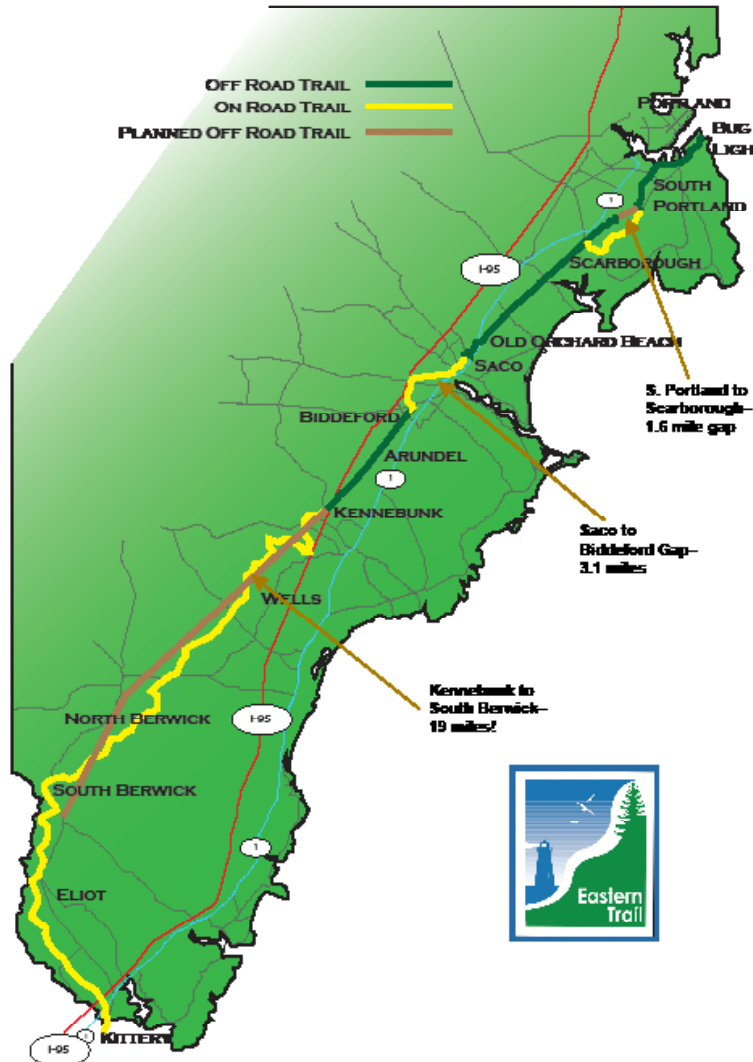
18 miles, \$200,000 raised as of April 2020.  
\$100,000 funded survey, \$100,000 dedicated to design.

Survey on 11 miles from Kennebunk through Wells to Pratt & Whitney in North Berwick completed.

Strong local support.

**Next Steps:** Kennebunk, Wells, North Berwick plan to submit a Planning Partnership Initiative request to MaineDOT to cover cost of planning study for 1.25 miles North Berwick–Wells and .75 miles Kennebunk.

**Result:** Phase 1 will add 10 miles; Phase 2 will add 8 more miles.



**44 total off-road miles when these campaigns are complete**



### **A message from the ETA President, Deb Erickson-Irons**

In these uncertain and unprecedented times when it seems like everything is changing, I want to reassure you that one constant is the commitment of the ETA to build, maintain, and promote the use of the Eastern Trail. We continue to do everything we can to encourage the Maine DOT and other partners to start the construction phase to complete the 1.6-mile “gap” in the off-road trail between South Portland and Scarborough. As of this January 20, over \$200,000 has been raised toward funding the survey and design for the section of trail planned between Kennebunk and Wells while we focus on bringing the trail South. We have updated our kiosks for the benefit of our trail users and have responded to the need to practice Covid-19 precautions due to record-high numbers of users on the trail.

We know that the Eastern Trail is of benefit to all who walk or ride on it, and that its use contributes to the economic well-being of the communities that are located on the trail. While we learn to live with the current pandemic and the eventual post-pandemic reality, we promise to stay focused on the incomparable resource that is the Eastern Trail.

Best wishes for your continued health and well-being. See you on the trail!



### **A message from the ETA Executive Director, Nancy Borg**

How I wish we could be sharing a toast to the Eastern Trail at Vinegar Hill celebrating another exciting and eventful year together.

The Eastern Trail shared many great times in 2019 with members, volunteers, sponsors, and community representatives at a variety of events; Open Trails Day, 3rd Annual Taste of the Town Gala, 4th Annual John Andrews 5K, our 2019 Annual Meeting at Vinegar Hill, Many Full Moon Walks in Scarborough, Iron Man event in Old Orchard, Our 16th Annual Maine Lighthouse Ride (despite Hurricane Dorian), Autumn to Ale 10K and the Maine Marathon. Each of those events contributed much needed funds to the Eastern Trail for operational support and Project Campaigns.

In addition to these outings, we also updated our Website, welcomed several new board members with a diverse list of talents and experience, and revitalized our trail kiosks for a cleaner, current, and accessible representation of our trail.

The Eastern Trail has proven to our communities how important of a resource this is for our mental health and physical well being. Never has this been truer than the spring of 2020.

As a valuable member of the Eastern Trail, thank you. The best is yet to come!

## Renewal of current officers and trustees with 2020 expiration dates:



### Officer:

Ralph Hiltz: Treasurer

### Trustee:

Joe Yuhas

### Trustee Nominations

Bill Dehais, Trustee

Kelly Whetstone, Trustee

Eric Wright, Trustee

### Recognition of Retiring Board Members

**Our thanks and gratitude for your years of service and dedication to the Eastern Trail Alliance**



**Bob Bowker– President and Vice President Emeritus**

**Jim Bucar, Trustee and ETA Photographer**

### In Memoriam

**Jim Munroe–** We lost a dear friend of the Eastern Trail this past month. Jim Munroe has been a board member from the moment he was asked to join by John Andrews. John saw Jim's enthusiasm and dedication to the trail. Jim was always thinking of what new events we could introduce to help more people gain awareness of the trail. Thank you, Jim, for your many years of service as an active board member of the Eastern Trail Alliance.



November 19, 1952 – April 1, 2020



### **A message from the ETMD Executive Director, Carole Brush**

It seems like only yesterday that I connected with the Eastern Trail Alliance and Management District. It's hard to believe it's been twelve years. Time truly does fly when you're having fun!



For the first time in 20 years we have three projects underway to add more miles to this wonderful resource – all in different stages of development at the same time. We are “Closing the Gap” (CTG) between South Portland and Scarborough and actively moving forward as we head “Over the River” (OTR) to connect Saco and Biddeford and through the woods “Blazing the Trail South” (BTTS) to continue our path south from Kennebunk through Wells, North & South Berwick.

None of this would have been possible without the vision, dedication and energy of our founder, John Andrews, and the support of each and every one of you. I am constantly awed and inspired by all the truly wonderful people I continue to meet who are so committed to our mission of completing this beautiful resource. I hope you will join me as we turn these 22 off-road miles into 44 and then 65!

It won't happen overnight, but when these sections are constructed, we will have 80% of the off-road trail completed and “pave” or “unpave” the way to complete the final miles taking us to the New Hampshire border.

The existing sections of off-road trail were constructed with Federal, State and Municipal funds. As the demand for trails increased, and the federal and state \$ decreased, we recognized that “It will take a village” — or, more likely, several cooperating and coordinated villages— to add more miles.

Thank you – I am honored to be part of this amazing vision – continuing to add more miles and smiles as we Blaze the Trail South!

## 2019 Annual Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

### Vinegar Hill Music Theatre

80+ attendees.

6:30 PM– Deb Erickson-Irons begins with opening remarks, entertains motion to approve minutes from the 2018 annual meeting. Motion passes, no one opposed.

Ralph Hiltz discusses financials. Ralph explains that Close-the-Gap money is the reason for extra money not budgeted. Money came in, and went out directly to Scarborough. Ralph opens the floor to questions; there are none.

Deb asks for a motion to accept the financial report. Motion passes, no one opposed.

Jim Bucar nominates Bob Bowker as president, Jessica Rice as vice-president, no one opposed.

A new board member, Tom McCullum of South Berwick is nominated. Deb provides a brief biography on Tom. His nomination passes unanimously.

A motion to close the business portion of the meeting passes unanimously. Business meeting ends at 8:40 PM.





	2019B	2019A
<b>INCOME</b>		
Dues/Membership	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 14,009.59
Annual Appeal	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,835.82
Interest	\$ 300.00	\$ 665.68
Trail guide sales	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,709.51
Donations	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 32,067.04
Grants	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
CTG Projects	\$ -	\$ 450.00
Trail-Gala	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,271.95
Blaze The Trail South	\$ -	\$ 59,415.00
Other Projects	\$ -	\$ 102.53
Kiosk/Trail Enhancements	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Me. Lighthouse Ride	\$ 136,000.00	\$ 97,262.83
MEND 10K	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,258.87
John Andrews 5K	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 18,028.26
Jersey Sales	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,034.34
Apparel Sales	\$ 100.00	\$ 324.61
Sponsorships	\$ -	\$ -
Annual Meeting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,455.00
Economic Impact Study	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 221,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 281,891.03</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Office</b>		
Rent	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,307.50
Phone & Internet	\$ 700.00	\$ 449.57
Supplies & Printing	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,982.81
Computer Support	\$ 350.00	\$ 264.00
Computer Hardware/Software	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,399.48
Postage & PO Box, Permit	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,265.31
Credit Card & Paypal Fees	\$ 360.00	\$ 360.00
Paint/New Floor in Office	\$ -	\$ -
Donor Perfect License	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,256.00
New Software{quickbooks/database}	\$ -	\$ -
Misc.	\$ 200.00	\$ 754.12
Staff	\$ 78,800.00	\$ 74,247.40
Consulting	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Payroll Taxes	\$ 5,430.00	\$ 5,214.51
Payroll Bank Charges	\$ 750.00	\$ 810.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 96,440.00</b>	<b>\$ 93,311.05</b>
<b>Board</b>		
Insurance	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,212.00
ETMD & Other Dues	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 7,235.00
Sales Tax	\$ 450.00	\$ 311.10
Audit., Tax Return	\$ -	\$ -
Training/Conferences	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Travel-Mileage & Tolls	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 663.80
Website, Fees, Etc.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,478.39
Website Redesign	\$ -	\$ -
Misc., Fees	\$ 60.00	\$ 163.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,710.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,063.86</b>
<b>Misc.</b>		
Annual Appeal	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 998.35
Misc., PR Award, Promos, Mtgs.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 400.35
Annual Meeting	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,000.19
Me. Lighthouse Ride	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 35,382.23
Apparel Costs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Trail Guide	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Kiosk/Trail Enhancements	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 7,617.39
Jersey Costs	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -
Close the Gap	\$ -	\$ 144.20
Trail-Gala	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,544.11
MEND 10K	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,793.25
Campaign Transfer	\$ 37,300.00	\$ -
Blazing the Trail South	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 28,500.00
John Andrews 5K	\$ 500.00	\$ 450.00
Economic Impact Study	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 623.00
Other projects	\$ 250.00	\$ 189.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 112,750</b>	<b>\$ 84,642.51</b>
<b>Expense Total</b>	<b>\$ 221,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 181,017.42</b>

### Message from ETA Treasurer, Ralph Hiltz

Financially, 2019 was a good year, with revenues exceeding expenses by \$93K.

Major reasons: donations toward the fund drive to “Blazing the Trail South” and a \$20,000 donation from the Maine Marathon 2019. You will see those under the revenue category, “Donations” and “Blazing the Trail South.”

Our major fundraiser every year, The Maine Lighthouse Ride, had a revenue shortfall of \$39K, but that was partially offset by lower expenses of only \$15K. Reason for the shortfall was Hurricane Dorian, which cut the usual number of riders from 1,200 to only 750.

Overall, 2019 was a still a good year, primarily because of the excellent effort by our ETA staff and our energetic and active volunteers.



**Eastern Trail Alliance**  
**Officers & Trustees– May 12, 2018**  
P.O. Box 250 Saco, ME 04702 207-284-9260  
[www.EasternTrail.Org](http://www.EasternTrail.Org)



**Deborah Erickson-Irons, President**

2021

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York, ME 03909  
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Executive Director, J.G. Lovering Health Center

**Ralph Hiltz, Treasurer**

2020

42 Berry Road  
Saco, ME 04072  
[rhiltz@maine.rr.com](mailto:rhiltz@maine.rr.com)  
Retired Accountant

**Bill Dehais**

2022

21 Woodside Drive  
Cumberland, ME 04021  
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**Bryan Gallant**

2019

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South Portland, ME 04106  
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Assistant Manager Rodgers Ski and Sport

**Joe Yuhas**

2020

18 Forest St.  
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[folk44@aol.com](mailto:folk44@aol.com)  
Retired Biology teacher

**Tom McCullom**

2022

80 Highland Avenue  
South Berwick, Maine 03908  
Retired, Civil Consultants

**Kelly Whetstone**

2023

4 Landmark Road  
Scarborough, Maine 04074  
Deputy General Counsel, Foreside  
Financial Group

**Eric Wright**

2023

379 Flag Pond Road  
Saco, Maine 04072  
Systems Administrator,  
Town & Country Federal Credit Union

**Part Time Office Staff**

Nancy Borg, ETA Executive Director  
[nancy@easterntail.org](mailto:nancy@easterntail.org)

Carole Brush, ETMD Executive Director,  
Trail Development Director  
[eta@easterntail.org](mailto:eta@easterntail.org)

Larry Glantz, ETA Web Coordinator  
[larryg@easterntail.org](mailto:larryg@easterntail.org)

Jen Steele-Skillings, Events Coordinator  
[jen@easterntail.org](mailto:jen@easterntail.org)

**Emeritus Officers**

John Andrews, President (1937–2017)

Bob Hamblen, President, Treasurer

Bob LaNigra, Vice-President, Secretary

Tim Lambert, Secretary

Bob Bowker, President, Vice-President

