HMCA Activities Update

by Diana Todd

for sharing at the July 2017 meeting of the HPC

A summary of what HMCA has been doing in the interval since the last HPC meeting in early May.

1. Marlboro Elementary School (MES) Day on the Mountain had to be rescheduled due to bad weather. Ultimately held on June 6, in perfect weather, the event was a big success. Students could choose from 11 different activities. HMCA Director Carol Berner worked closely with MES staff to organize the activities. HMCA paid stipends of $75 to five of the event leaders. The other six declined the stipend and donated their time. HMCA presented a commemorative map/poster to retiring Principal Francie Marbury, thanking her for supporting the students’ involvement with the mountain over the years.
2. We discovered that two trail signs had been stolen over the winter. Bob Anderson made replacements and installed them.
3. T-bars: The Select Board is considering the HMCA proposal, endorsed by the HPC, of transferring ownership of the T-bars and retractors to the HMCA. They want to give town residents a chance to comment on the idea. An article in the July/August Marlboro Mixer invites public comment on the proposal.
4. Summer programs to date have been well received:
   1. June 3, Bird Walk with Bob Engle
   2. June 4, Trail Cleanup
   3. June 17, Wildflowers and Medicinal Plants with Allison Turner
5. Upcoming summer programs include:
   1. July 15, Unveil the Bishop Farm
   2. July 20, evening slide show, Susan Morse, The Cougar Returns to the East
   3. Aug 5, summer animal tracking with George Leoniak
6. The webs site continues to receive about 15 visits per day. Facebook “likes” are in the mid 600’s.