

Concord Conservation Commission
Trails Subcommittee Meeting
June 8, 2016

Present: Bob Knight, Peter Ellenwood, Ron Klemarczyk, Hilary Thomson, Greg Mannesto, Rob Talmadge, Fran Philippe, Rod Helwig, Chris Northrup, Robert Eilnwein, Beth Fenstermacher, Fran Leach Pierce and Brian Pierce, Kathy Healy, Gail Page

1. Previous minutes approved and accepted.

2. Trail Planning:

a. Broken Ground: Beth and Greg conferred about the trail around the beaver pond and marsh area off of N. Curtisville Rd. with regard to its environmental sensitivity. It is a prime bird habitat and Greg recommended not to allow dogs on that trail. The trail will be moved further from the shore but a spur to the water's edge will be built for nature viewing. Ron K. recommends a parking area further up the road on the other side with a short connector trail to the pond trail.

A question was raised about allowing dogs on the west side of the pond due to the fact that persons hiking the longer trail further east from the pond with their dogs would have no way to return to the parking area unless they backtracked. This was not resolved.

Trail clearing near the south end of the park is underway. Ron has blazed the entire boundary line with red paint.

b. Swope to Winant Park: St Paul's School has still not signed the needed paperwork to finalize the city's use of a portion of their land for the connector trail from Swope to Winant. Trail building will therefore begin from the Swope end. No date set for that trail work.

3. Trail Guide Updates: Beth asks that revision to the guide be submitted to her by the end of June. Historical info is needed for the Russell Martin Trails. Tom Martin is the trail steward for this area.

Chris Northrup plans to determine official trails for Rolfe Park rather than the random trails there now that were made by walkers.

4. Community Trail Walk: The Capitol Area Wellness Coalition and Doctor's RX are encouraging patients to get out on the trails. Perhaps the trails stewards could offer monthly hikes to these organizations? Word would be passed via the city website. Fran will do a draft email to the trail stewards to ask about their willingness to participate as hike leaders.

Discussed scheduling monthly trail hikes. Kathy Healy will lead the first hike June 30 at Riley.

5. Trail Maintenance and Reporting: Trails committee volunteers did fifty hours of trail work in May. Hours should be sent to Rob Knight and Beth. The needed work on the Jim Hill River Walk has been completed and the area looks good. Ron K. listed numerous projects completed on many trails in the city system including removing downed trees, repairs to bridges, sign improvements.

6. Other Business:

a. The Merrimack River Greenway received a grant for a boardwalk and work is ready to start.

b. The chainsaw certification class is not scheduled as yet.

c. Bike racks at trail heads- the Central NH bike Coalition may be a source of funding.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Page, secretary