

CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES, November 9,2016

Present: Audra Klumb, David Shore, Chris Northrop, Chris Hallowell, Greg Mannesto, Rob Knight, Tim Pifer, Rob Talmadge, Ron Klemarczyk, Beth Fenstermacher, Hilary Thomson, Fran Philippe, Brian and Fran Leach-Pierce, Mike Lehman, Gail Page

1. Minutes of October meeting approved with one spelling change.

2. Community Trail Walks:

Broken Ground – An estimated 30 people attended the Grand Opening hikes on October 22nd, despite cloudy, damp weather. Beth F., Ron K., and Gail P. offered background and current information about the newly conserved area and the trail system. Howard Nowell's wife and children were present and spoke their thanks for the naming of a trail for their husband/father. They also took part in the hiking.

Since the opening, we've had good feedback on the trails, signage and blazing.

Rob Talmadge will participate in the bikers' trail building in the spring and Ron K will supervise. Beth F. says the gate on the road to the orange trail is open and will be moved further up the road past the trailhead. The new segment of the white trail needs GPS milage.

Five Rivers hike – At least 100 persons participated in this hike from Swope to Carter Hill on November 6th. It was a very successful cooperative effort between the city and Five Rivers.

Gail P will lead a community hike at Oak Hill on November 19 and Fran P will lead one on December 10 at Contoocook River Park. Beth will publicize these opportunities via the city website, Facebook, MeetUp, and in communication with community groups. The Capital Area Wellness Coalition is interested in partnering with us for hikes and walks. Beth announced the city received a grant to award persons who hike all the city trails.

It would be desirable for us to put together a list of trails for the city website that are appropriate for snowshoeing and XC skiing.

3. Trail Construction Updates:

The Swope to Winant trail is in progress. Ron K has constructed a plank walk and a 16' bridge with the help of St Paul's students and Second Start students. Other bridges are needed when normal wetness returns. Rob K. recruited a work party for brush clearing on the connector trail to take place Nov. 11th.

4. T-shirts:

Tim Pifer is seeking a second estimate for getting the shirts printed.

5. Trail Maintenance & Reporting:

Ron K has cleared brush at the Swope parking lot and cut brush at the view spot. Ron also replaced an old bridge at Rum Hill and laid a 92' boardwalk. His daughter financed the lumber for this via a "Go Fund Me" site.

Chris Northrop has revised and description and map for Rolf Park and sent them to Beth. Signs are needed to distinguish between city trails and trails constructed for the nearby high school track team.

The Carter Hill trail from Swope has been de-stumped and side cuts into the hillside have been made where the trail was too sloped.

ATVs are accessing the West Farm Trail by driving around the gate. This is mainly a problem for wet areas where the tires create ruts. The trail is dry now, due to lack of rain. Ron K will look into creating drainage for wet areas on the trail so that when the ATVs do their unauthorized travel, they will not damage the trail.

6. Trail Guide Updates:

An intern has ridden all the trails.

7. Budget:

The main budget item for this subcommittee at this time is the cost of permanent trail signs. Broken Ground has all temporary signs at this time. West End Farm Trail needs more signs. Beth asks that trail stewards let her know of any other signs that are needed. Ron K will get an estimate of sign costs. Rob K will look into alternative sign materials, i.e. durable but inexpensive. Tim P will check with the state prison to see if their workshop would make signs and at what cost. Signs have a way of disappearing which is a factor in choosing material and cost.

8. Other Business:

Committee discussed the possibility of formalizing the trail that runs from the corner of Rum Hill Rd. and School St to Langley Parkway. Parking at the trail would be an issue. A neighbor has apparently had the city erect "no parking" signs. The neighborhood would need to support the trail.

NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 14, 2016, 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Page, recording secretary