

Concord Conservation Commission Trails Sub-Committee  
Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2017

Present: Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Talmadge, Rob Knight, David S. Ross, Fran Philippe, Hilary Thomson, Beth Fenstermacher, Mike Lehman, Greg Manesco, Gail Page

Guests: Robert Erlenwein, Hillary Miscoe, Leslie Talmadge, Kate Nadler

1. Minutes from the December 2016 meeting were accepted as presented.
2. The committee reviewed the draft goals for 2017 and made several changes. Draft 2017 Goals attached. Draft Goals will be presented to the Conservation Commission for approval.

Re: trail between Rum Hill and Winant Park, Rob Talmadge asked how many more trails do we need? Is there a point where we have enough? We may not be able to recruit enough volunteers for trail stewards. The question "How do we determine the need for and location of future trails in Concord?" will be added to next month's agenda.

3. 2017 Budget – Ron Klemarczyk and Beth Fenstermacher have discussed the 2017 budget. It stands at \$22,000.00 with Ron doing the major work. If volunteers can be recruited for some projects, the costs will decrease. This figure includes materials and the necessary \$5000.00 for new and replaced signage. We also have access to \$1600.00 from a memorial fund for Oak Hill and \$225 collected by an Eagle Scout specifically for signs at Carter Hill.
4. Community Trail Walks - Beth has publicized the 1/14 trail walk at Broken Ground to be led by Fran Philippe. Rob Talmadge will lead the next hike on 2/17 from Swope along the Carter Hill connector as far as the site of the old bob sled run. He hopes for snowshoe conditions. We will determine the location and leader for the March community hike at the next meeting.
5. Trails committee T-shirts - awaiting information on pricing and design from Tim Pifer.
6. Signs – costs and materials are still to be determined. There is potential that the NH Prison workshop might be a source. Tim Pifer is looking into this. Also, Tim Donovan, neighbor to Swope-Winant Connector offered to create signs for that trail. He created a trail from his property to the connector.
7. Winter shared use of trails – Cross country skiers appreciate it when snowshoers and hikers do not walk on the ski tracks. Discussed what is the best way or ways to communicate this to all trail users. Signs on the trails vs sign on the kiosk vs website notice. All three would be useful.
8. Trail Maintenance and Reporting – Fran raised the concern that Broken Ground trails may have too many trail colors. Currently there are 4 colors for the trails. She suggests that the trail that circles the beaver pond be one color (yellow). As of now, that trail is blue on one side and yellow on the other. Besides naming the Blue trail for Howard Nowell, Fran also asks if the other trails might have names instead of just colors. Beth notes that any naming of trails other than by color will have to be approved by the City Council. May 2017 is the next meeting where it could be on the agenda. Fran will draft a report to the City Council to consider.  
Additionally, neighbors on South Curtisville Rd would appreciate signs at the junction of Frost Rd and S. Curtisville Rd. distinguishing Batchelder Mill trailhead locations vs Broken Ground trailhead parking so that they can resign from being de facto direction-givers to confused hikers.

9. Other Business - Rob Knight suggested that we start our meetings earlier to give us more time to get through our agenda before the Conservation Commission meeting starts. Agreed to try a start time of 5:15. This change will begin next month (February).

Next meeting is February 8 at **5:15**.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Gail Page, Recording Secretary**

## Concord Conservation Commission Trails Sub-Committee

### Mission:

To develop, maintain and promote mixed-use trails for the City of Concord consistent with the open space plan.

### 2017 Goals

1. Decide whether to add Rum Hill to Winant Park trail to the trail network – Determine community and neighborhood support for the trail. If there is support, get trail permissions.
2. Make permanent directional signs to clarify wayfinding at Oak Hill, Broken Ground, and WEFT/Connector trails. Trailhead sign at Broken Ground.
3. Trail maintenance:
  - Swope Park – rebuild trail sidecuts
  - WEFT – fix swampy section off Exit #3
  - Oak Hill – remove rocks from small section of Tower Trail
  - Update maps and information in all kiosks and website
  - Reblaze trails as necessary: WEFT, Spear Park, Riley, Contoocook River Park, Oak Hill
4. Have an active steward for every trail, and check and maintain every trail at least twice per year. – Fran Philippe
5. Develop a guide for Trail Stewards, to clarify expectations and promote consistency in their trail work. – David Ross
6. Organize one trail walk per month, including 1-2 major community trail walks partnered with local organizations as appropriate.
7. Finish updating the trail guide with missing text and trail maps.
8. Better inform trail users of allowed trail uses and restrictions through signage and the trail guide. – Fran Philippe
9. Treat older boardwalks to increase lifespan.