

Concord Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Concord Trails Committee
for July 12, 2017

Attending: Rik Van Riel, Chris Northrop, Fran Philippe, Rob Talmadge, Beth Fenstermacher, Leslie Talmadge, Hilary Thompson, Gail Page

1. Minutes of the June meeting were approved as written.
2. Community Trail Walks –
 - a. David Ross led a walk at Jim Hill River Walk on June 24th. Thirteen members of the public participated. David reports that there is a hole in the trail near Daisy Beach caused by water. He recommends a slight re-routing of the trail as this is an on-going problem. Fran located some history of this area that could be added to the kiosk.
 - b. The annual Mayor's Walk is set for September 30th. Members of the trails committee are encouraged to participate.
 - c. Five Rivers is sponsoring a hike from Swope to Winant on November 5th.
 - d. Fran assisted the Parks and Recreation Dept. with two hikes for youngsters. She led 8 first and second graders on the Jim Hill River walk and 14 third to fifth graders on the Swope trails including the historic recreation area. She noted that some of the children did not have appropriate shoes for woods walking. Is there something we or a charity can do about this for future walks?
 - e. Alison Murphy, a local yoga teacher is planning a yoga hike at Swope on September 19th.
 - f. On 8/5 Lorraine LoRusso plans a walk at Winant for people with dogs with the intention of teaching the dog owners trail etiquette when dog-walking.
 - g. Hannah McBride plans a family hike on the Forest Society trails on 7/20.
 - h. The Concord Wellness Coalition is sponsoring the annual "walk to school day" either on 10/4/17 or in the spring.
3. Trail signs – Tim Pifer hasn't put in the order yet at the prison. The city's forestry intern, Pete Grebowski, can help with placing signs. Rob Talmadge likes the brown and white signs at the Bow forests, rather than the green and white we'd discussed.

Liz Hangen, a local historian, will meet with Beth about some informative signs regarding the Swope to Winant trail area.
4. Trail maintenance –
 - a. planks for the wet area on the Swope to Winant trail have been installed.
 - b. Newcomer Rik Van Riel volunteered to split the Oak Hill Trail system with Hilary, in light of the large number of trails there. Rik feels there are too many red trails on Oak Hill causing confusion. However, the new trail booklet has been printed, so he will try and come up with informative signs at trail junctures.

c. Regarding blazing, we want to use consistent color shades on all trails. Fran will store the paint cans on her breezeway at 234 East Side Dr. We will use quart-size cans instead of gallons for ease of use. Chris Northrop recommends two coats of paint on the blazes.
d. David Ross prepared a trail steward manual which Beth will add to the website.

5. Kiosks - The new forestry intern will be tasked with updating and adding to the information on the trail kiosks.

Next meeting: August 9th at 5:15 PM, city hall conference room, second floor

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Page, recording secretary