

CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Trails Subcommittee Meeting
March 10, 2021

Attendees: Rob Knight, Chairperson; Gail Page, Secretary; Rob Talmadge; Greg Mannesto, David Ross; Fran Philippe; Rik Van Riel; Judy Weatherbee; Scott Daniels; Kristine Tardiff and Jeff Lewis of the Conservation Commission; Ron Klemarczyk, consultant city forester

Absent: Ben Stephenson

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher, Assistant City Planner

The committee was authorized to meet electronically due to COVID-19. Chair Rob Knight called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

As Chair of the Concord NH Conservation Commission Trails Subcommittee, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Subcommittee is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, we have provided public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, and instructions are provided on the City of Concord's website at: www.concordnh.gov/planning

With Regard to providing public access to the meeting;

We are utilizing the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. All members of the Subcommittee have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through visiting the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/829848841> .

If you do not have website access, you may dial the following phone number 929-205-6099 and enter the webinar id 829 848 841.

*For those calling in who want to provide public testimony, via the website, you may click on the chat icon to ask, or click "raise hand" to be recognized as authorized by the Chair. For participants, dialing in on a phone, you may dial *9 to alert the Chair that you want to testify. Please note that testimony only applies to public hearings, and public participation may not be authorized in a public meeting which is not a public hearing.*

With Regard to providing the public with a way to alert us about access problems;

If anybody has a problem, please call 603-225-8515 or send an email to: planning@concordnh.gov.

With Regard to adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting;

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, we will adjourn the meeting and have it rescheduled at that time.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote.

With that, let's start the meeting by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member states their presence, also please state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

Agenda items

1. Minutes of February 10th 2021 were accepted as presented.
2. New trail Updates: a. Ron Klemarczyk recommends trail work at Knowlton Woods be done after mud season. A work day will be planned. Chuck Rose will create the parking lot once the ground is dry. Meanwhile, it has been noted that hikers are using the skidder road.

Ron has removed a downed tree from the Nowell Trail at Broken Ground. He also removed debris from the Pond Trail. Culverts are to be installed this spring at the Currier Rd parking lot entrance.

c. Rob Talmadge reports a tree hung up on the West End Farm Trail south of District 5 Rd.
d. Beth will prepare some temporary signs for stewards to put up near the entrance to trails informing hikers of muddy trail etiquette. This is especially important on Broken Ground trails, Oak Hill, Swope and Winant. She will also put a notice about this on the website.

3. 2021 Goals: The goals set at the previous meeting were affirmed unanimously this day on motions by Greg Mannesto and David Ross.
a. Gail will plan a field trip to examine two possible locations for a bench at the beaver pond at Broken Ground. If a bench is placed at the pond, a sign is recommended to remind users about respecting the wildlife at the pond by keeping a good distance from nests and beaver lodges.
b. Any kiosks needing updating or improved content need to be part of the spring trails check by stewards and reported to Beth. The summer intern who works with Ron K. will have keys to open the kiosks and make the recommended improvements.

4. Other:
a. The Conservation Commission discussed the matter of dogs on the trails and an incident reported to the city about a dog disturbing a hiker. This issue is larger than just trails and includes dogs in parks and streets. If a new regulation is desired, it will have a public hearing. Enforcement of any regulation regarding control of dogs in public places will be difficult.
b. Ron K and Beth met with a representative of a cross-country ski group who want to expand the ski trails onto easement land off Langley Parkway. It will go before the Conservation Commission at their meeting later.
c. Ron and Beth also met with Don Ross concerning re-routing the WEFT connector trail to avoid Mr. Ross' sap operation and agricultural fields. Ron has flagged a likely route and will return after the snow melts with Mr. Ross to finalize the route. This will be on the next meeting's agenda.
d. The Conservation Commission approved another 3 year term on the Trails Subcommittee for Rob Talmadge.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm. Next meeting will be on April 14 at 5:15.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail R. Page

Concord Trail Committee

2021 Goals - Draft 1/13/21

- 1.1.1. Revise trail maps and trail guide: New edition of trail guide - target date: June 2021
- 1.1.2. Standardize information in trailhead kiosks: Make a list of the standard contents and have trail stewards check their kiosks regularly. Include information about the Trails Subcommittee and info about volunteering.
- 1.1.3. Decommissioning trails: Establish a policy and procedure to remove trails from our network and start removing unmaintained trails from our maps.
- 1.1.4. West End Farm Trail: Develop a new route to reconnect the north and south halves.
- 1.1.5. Maintain treadpath on heavily used trails: Address soil erosion, unintended widening, and downhill creep on heavily used trails (e.g., Swope).
- 1.1.6. Locke Road trails: Make Locke Road trails into a loop if there is a dry route to connect them. Clarify or remove the Heritage trails from the Locke trail map.
- 1.1.7. Bench at Swope Park: Replace the broken bench at the yellow trail outlook.
- 1.1.8. Bench at Broken Ground: Install a bench overlooking the beaver pond.