

Concord Conservation Commission
Trails Subcommittee Meeting
June 9, 2021

Present via zoom: Rob Knight, chairperson; Gail Page, secretary; Fran Philippe; Greg Mannesto; Rob Talmadge; Scott Daniels; Rik Van Riel; Conservation Commission representatives Kristine Tardiff and Jeff Lewis; and, Ron Klemarczyk, Consultant City Forester
Absent: Ben Stephenson, David Ross, Judy Weatherbee
Staff: Beth Fenstermacher, Assistant City Planner, and Cathy McComish, summer intern

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. The May 12th meeting minutes were accepted as presented.
2. New Trail: Trout Lily Trail at Locke Rd. The Natural Heritage Bureau of NH has requested a survey of the proposed trail location to see if American Climbing Fern or Spotted or Blandings Turtles are present. Fran and Ron K will organize a survey of the area. Scott, Gail, Cathy, Ron, Fran and Greg will participate on June 22nd. The Conservation Commission meeting this evening will take up this proposed new trail pending the survey and a public hearing.

The ditch on the riverside trail still needs to be filled so the trail can be routed away from the riverbank washout. Scott Daniels volunteered to start filling it this coming week.

3. Backwoods Trail at Winant Park: Ron K. will work on removing the tree hung up over the Cart Path. When this is done the Cart Path can be opened, the Winant trail map will be updated to show the new section. The map at the kiosk on Fisk Hill Rd entrance also needs to be updated. This is a photo map and will require a sign maker to make the changes.
4. Knowlton Woods at Oak Hill: Ron K reports that the parking lot for 7-8 cars is now complete. The mountain bikers of NEMBA have done most of the work on the two trails and tied them into the Dancing Bear Trail on Oak Hill. The western portion is complete and the eastern needs more work near the top of the hill. Beth F will work with Matt Bowser on the blaze colors for the trails and Matt will get them blazed. The sub-committee discussed possible names for the trails and recommended Bowser Trail and Knowlton Trail.
5. Trail Maintenance: Rob K. noted that we have recorded 51 hours of volunteer time from trail volunteers (and that it's likely there is more that is unreported).
Rob Knight removed a blowdown off Exit 3.
Ron K and Cathy removed a fallen tree at Broken Ground, replaced boards on the observation deck at Riley, they seeded and mulched the culvert installation at Currier Rd on the West End Farm Trail, Oak Hill's Tower Trail has a new water bar, the Dancing Bear's boardwalk is repaired, the bench that was on Dancing Bear is now installed at the Swope Slope vista. Ron and Cathy relocated a section of the Swope Connector trail off Dimond Road (Dimond Rd is divided down the middle between the city and Rossview Farm.) This keeps the trail on city property. The trail was also relocated to head SW from Dimond Rd along the edge of Rossview property instead of NW, staying away from Rossview fields.
6. Rob Knight reminded us we should elect a vice chairperson to replace Tim Pifer, who moved from Concord some months ago. The sub-committee elected Scott Daniels to be vice chairperson effective once the Conservation Commission officially moves him from alternate to a full committee member status. David Ross has requested that he be switched to alternate status. Scott will lead the meetings in July and August in Rob K's absence.
7. Trail Guide Updates: Rob and Beth need members and stewards to send in corrections and updates on the trails to be included in the next issue of the trail guide. Suggested updates might include comments on trail difficulty, steepness, rocky vs smooth, special features, history of trail names.
8. A quick review of our 2021 goals reveals we are accomplishing many of them.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM

Next meeting will be held IN PERSON at the city hall second floor conference room on **July 14, 2021 at 5:15**

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Page, recording secretary