

Concord Conservation Commission
Trails Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2022

Attending: Chairperson Scott Daniels; Vice Chair, Fran Philippe; Secretary, Gail Page; Rob Knight; Rob Talmadge; Greg Mannesto
Staff: Beth Fenstermacher and Ranger, Mel Caron
Conservation Commission representative, Jeff Lewis;
Consulting Forester, Ron Klemarczyk
Absent: Judy Weatherbee, alternates Ben Stephenson, Rik Van Riel, David Ross

Agenda:

1. Minutes for December 2021 were approved.

2. Trail Guide Update:

Chairperson Scott Daniels is moving the remainder of this discussion to a Zoom call at which we will take up the last ten trails for review. **The meeting is set for January 25th at 4:30PM.** Beth will set up the call and invited everyone to participate.

3. 2022 Goal setting:

Several previous 2021 goals are continuing, including completion of the trail maps and trail guide revision and Broken Ground bench. Sub-committee members are asked to (a) propose new projects and (b) new sub-committee goals for the coming year and share them via google docs for discussion at the March 9th meeting. Scott is preparing a worksheet that can be shared via Google Docs where sub-committee members can share their suggestions for projects and sub-committee goals. Beth will share the worksheet link on google docs with the members. If google docs doesn't work for a member, please email ideas directly to Beth or Scott.

4. Trail Maintenance and Reporting:

- a. Ron Klemarczyk reported replacing a broken sign in Swope Park, he also installed posts and moved signs from trees to the posts.
- b. At District 5 Rd, the tree harvest continues with trucks on the road. A nearby snowmobile track is now passable. The work crosses the Carter Hill Connector.
- c. Ron noted that the Jim Hill River Walk has been extended to the Mast Yard Hero's Bridge by virtue of hikers extending their walk to Hero's bridge instead of using the original loop trail. Ron will install a sign at the junction by Hero's bridge instead of replacing the loop sign further south. This does not require any changes to the map, and is not a new trail, just a clarification through signage on the ground.
- d. Mel Caron has composed a letter to all trail stewards expressing appreciation by the City for their work and inviting them to join the Trails Sub-committee members for a snow-shoe hike, or XC ski, followed by a pizza lunch. The Sub-committee chose **February 19th at 10:30 AM at Carter Hill Orchard** for this event. The orchard owners will be contacted by Mel to confirm that they are ok with the event and asked if they will make a building available for us to use for lunch.

5. Other Business

Rob Talmadge raised questions about re-routing the West End Farm Trail. Beth mentioned that she and Ron will plan a meeting with the Rosses hopefully in late February or March. Ron mentioned that first Don Ross would like to see a re-route in the northern portion of their property to address the issue of people walking onto the fields and to take advantage of a new vista created by a recent timber harvest on their land. Rob T. asked if the WEFT re-route will need to cross into the Country Hill property, Ron said that yes, it will likely go cross onto that property. Rob expressed his objection to any trail plan that impacts wildlife in this area, noting that the original intention of the city for the Country Hill property is to preserve open space and wildlife habitat. Beth stated that there is no final route, it is pending further discussions with the Rosses and completion of a land management plan for the County Hills property.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Page, recording secretary

NOTE: THERE WILL NOT BE A FEBRUARY MEETING.

Next meeting is March 9, 2022 at 5:15 in the City Council Chambers