

Concord Trails Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

09/11/2024

City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 41 Green St.

Present: Fran Philippe (Chair), Ron Klemarczyk (Consultant City Forester), Aaron Monier (Secretary), Member Rik Van Riel, Jeff Lewis (Conservation Commission) Member Rebecca Ross, AnneMarie Skinner (City Planner), Carl Matson (Trails Ranger), Judy Barrett Weatherbee (alternate), Member Andrew Gould, Member Mark Cheever

Guests: Mike Cunningham

Meeting called to order at 5:16 PM EST

1. Trails Report

a. Ranger Carl Matson

- i. Carl introduced guest Mike Cunningham.
- ii. Brush clearing and pruning at Jim Hill River Walk and Nowell Trails
- iii. Noted that there has been an un-housed encampment near Sun Fox Farms in the Greenway Trail between paved section and the river. Working with police chief on the matter.
- iv. Healy Park another encampment. Observed mowing around the DOT gate on Basin to provide access.
- v. O'Reilly-Fleetham had a couch illegally dumped.

b. Forester Ron Klemarczyk has been fighting wildfires in Oregon but reported for July 2024.

- i. Tree removal on Broken Ground Trails, Swope/Winant Connector, and Carter Hill Connector.
- ii. Took a brush to hardwood sprouts on the Penacook Lake outlook at Swope Park.
- iii. Pallet bridge on Pond Loop removed. Used nearby fill to avoid pooling.

2. Beth's Bench

- i. Ron K. will work on building the bench and will update progress at the next meeting. Plan is to install at Batchelder Mills Trail.

3. Review Conservation Commission comments on draft of 'Trails Procedures and Criteria'

- i. After a lengthy discussion, Chair Phillipe proposed motion to approve changes proposed by Conservation Commission to Trail Procedures and Criteria. Rik Van Riel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on vote.

4. Trail Maintenance Guide Update

- i. Rik Van Riel merged and updated guide with previous documents to streamline. He would like to add pictures and print to review next month and obtain feedback.
- ii. Fran P. suggested enlarging the text and having a non-digital version for folks who aren't computer savvy.
- iii. Rik Van Riel will share link with AnneMarie Skinner to distribute to the Trails Subcommittee.
- iv. Trail checks generally start in October for the fall.

5. Russell Pond Sign

- i. Fran P. has been in contact with AARP to discuss collaboration for interpretive sign installation. She has had trouble connecting with somebody from the organization

- ii. Fran P. inquired what the next steps would be if she is unsuccessful w/ AARP. AnneMarie S. noted that the city generally uses Advantage Signs but the Conservation Commission would need to approve.

6. Guided Hikes Goals

- i. Local hiking group the Mountain Goats have expressed interest in leading group hikes. They will shadow Carl M. this Saturday, September 14th to get a feel for procedure and best practices.

7. Rebecca Ross and Mark Cheever have not had a chance to connect on all-abilities trail but will provide update at next month's meeting.

8. Judy Barrett Weatherbee asked if anyone would take over maintenance for parts of Oak Hill she was responsible for. It's become a lot of work and time. Rebecca Ross said she'd ask her parents and if not she'd be willing to help maintain sections of Oak Hill.

9. June 12, 2024 minutes were approved unanimously.

10. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM EST

Respectfully submitted,
Aaron Monier, Secretary