

Concord Trails Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

11/12/2025 Council Chambers Room, City Hall Annex

Members Present:

Fran Philippe (Chair), Andrew Gould (Secretary), Rik Van Riel, Judy Weatherbee (Alternate), Nick Holmes, Mark Cheever (Vice Chair), Jason Massa, Max Hankard and Rebecca Ross.

Staff: Ron Klemarczyk (City Forester) and Kearsten O'Brien (Senior Planner), Carl Matson (Trail Ranger)

Other: Jeff Lewis (Conservation Commission)

Absent: None

Guests: None

1. Meeting called to order at 5:15 PM.
2. Approval of 10/8/25 meeting minutes. Mark Cheever made the motion to approve the minutes as amended, Rik Van Riel seconded the motion, unanimous.
3. 2026 proposed meeting dates. Rebecca Ross made the motion to follow suit for the Conservation Commission's recommendation for the November, 2026 meeting date due to the regular scheduled meeting falling on Veteran's Day. Nick Holmes seconded the motion. Unanimous.
4. New Business: Fran Philippe suggested making the unsanctioned trail behind the Granite Ledges nursing home and the double track that starts at the UU church and connects to the Winant Park Trails official city trails. Nick Holmes made the motion to do a preliminary investigation into adopting these trails by looking into the long-term agreements with the UU Church and Concord Hospital. Unanimous.
5. Trails maintenance and reporting
 - a. Ron Klemarczyk:
 - Betty and Warren Richards Trail: Blazed orange, installed signs and cut stumps.
 - West End Farm Trail: Cut stumps and assisted with the bridge and fill project.
 - Cut large ash on O'Rielly-Fleetham Trail
 - Replaced rotted plank on Swope-Winant Connector
 - Discussion on Richards property bridges
 - b. Carl Matson:
 - Homeless camp near radio towers on Locke Road
 - Added information about the Betty and Warren Richards Forest to the kiosk.

6. Old Business

- a. Trail Guide Updates for Review
 - i. Contoocook River Trails: No edits.
 - ii. Rolfe Park: Add football field and an "s" to the word trail.
 - iii. Spears Park: Add information about the Betty and Warren Richards Forest trails. Add new loop trail to the map. Fran Phillippe commended Ron Klemarczyk, Scouting America and Jeff Lewis for their work on this project.
 - iv. Riley Trails: No edits.
 - v. Carter Hill Trails: Edit name of loop trail. Edit trail colors on map. Add large WEFT sign to the telephone pole at the top of the orchard. Edit parking information. Add "northern terminus of the WEFT."
 - vi. Sewalls Falls Trails: Add three starting point locations. Fix one typo.
 - vii. Removal of red spur recommended. Jeff Lewis is suggested this needs to go through criteria for discontinuance.

7. Other Business

- a. Hikes
 - October hike had 15 attendees.
 - November 15. Sewalls Falls led by Peter
 - December 13. Carter Hill led by Wendy.
 - January 10. Boscawen led by Judi.

8. Staff Updates: None

9. Concord Trails Plan Chapters 4&5 discussion: Did not discuss.

10. Healy Park discussion: Nick Holmes made the motion to remove the Healy Park map page from the Trails Guide based on Ron and Nick's recommendation. Rik Van Riel seconded the motion. Most were in favor, while Rebecca Ross and Mark Cheever were opposed. Rebecca Ross suggested closing the trails along with removing the maps.

11. Nick Holmes made the motion to adjourn at 6:40. Mark Cheever seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Andrew Gould

Secretary