

Concord Conservation Commission
Trails Subcommittee Minutes for
April 11, 2018

Present: Fran Philippe, Rob Talmadge, Greg Mannesto, Tim Pifer, Rob Knight, Ron Klemarczyk, Beth Fenstermacher, Gail Page

Guests: Rik Van Riel, Mike Showalter, Kris Tardiff

1. Minutes of March 14, 2018 were approved with two spelling corrections.
2. Conservation Commission chairperson Kris Tardiff presented a draft of the Commission's Statement of Purpose and Guidelines for the Trail's Subcommittee. The CCC wishes to formalize what has existed informally regarding the Trails Subcommittee. Questions and comments were exchanged with Kris concerning the contents of the draft. Generally, the document lays out what currently exists. Along with a list of responsibilities and meeting frequency, it specifies the terms of the members (three years) and officers (one year but can be reappointed for up to five consecutive years), the number of voting members (seven) and alternative members (three). Members' terms would be staggered so that experienced members do not all end their membership at the same time. Kris will attend the next subcommittee meeting and requested further input from subcommittee members so that this draft can be finalized and adopted.
3. Finalize Trail Procedure document The draft of this document was adopted with two changes: a. the title now includes the words, "or Trail Network" after "Procedure for Approving a New Trail" and b. at #7, three words added: "Planning staff and Forester consider parking (if applicable), access issues, and necessary permits and prepare a budget for any needed infrastructure." *With these changes, the Procedure was approved for presentation to the Conservation Commission for adoption.*
4. Community Trail Walks Mike Schowalter will lead a hike on Oak Hill on 4/14. Rob Knight will lead a hike on May 12th, location to be determined. On June 9th Tim Pifer and Fran Philippe will lead hikes for AARP. They plan an easy hike at Sewalls Falls and a moderate one at Carter Hill. Any other Trails Committee members who can assist as "sweeps" are encouraged to come. A large number of participants are expected. Beth's new senior planner, Sam Duffee, will do the presentation to AARP on 4/21 on the city's trail network and best, safe ways to enjoy hiking.
5. Trail Maintenance Rob is sending reminders to trail stewards to get out and check their trails for winter damage. He has an updated list of stewards and will send this list out to the Trails Committee. Some new stewards are Bob Cotton for Winant Park, Julianne Gadoury for Walker Reserve and Ann Rice for Weir Rd.
Signs We have signs for Broken Ground and the Connector Trails. Fran Philippe will head up a work crew to install posts and signs at Broken Ground. Rob Knight will head up sign installation on the Connector Trails. Rik Van Riel and Mike Showalter will make a list of signs needed at Oak Hill. Greg Mannesto will handle the Russell Martin sign installation.
Ron Klemarczyk reported on his work at Merrill Park to re-route a trail away from wet areas. He had the assistance of the rowing crew from St Paul's School. He has installed a sign indicating the relocation of the trail.
Ron also removed saplings that would obstruct the view of Penacook Lake from the Swope Park vista. He is conducting a timber sale off Via Tranquilla Way. Mud season has slowed this project. He reports that the timber harvest will obstruct trails in the Penacook Lake watershed, but public use of the watershed is not allowed anyway.
6. Beth received a suggestion from a trails volunteer that the Broken Ground parking lot should be made smaller so it is less inviting to teenagers as a hangout. Ron and the Committee discussed the lot but agreed the lot should remain as it is.

Beth reports that someone has been attempting to girdle trees on the State House lawn, several at City Hall and one at the State Historical Society. Police are involved. Most of the trees can be saved.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is May 9th at 5:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Page, Recording Secretary