

CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Trails Subcommittee Meeting
September 9, 2020
Minutes – DRAFT

The Conservation Commission Trails Subcommittee met at 5:15 on September 9, 2020 in an internet zoom meeting due to the Governor's request that in-person gatherings be suspended during the Corona Virus outbreak. Rob Knight read a statement from the city attorney authorizing this sub-committee to conduct a zoom meeting and instructions for how the public can participate.

Attendees: Rob Knight, Chairperson; David Ross; Fran Philippe; Rob Talmadge; Judy Weatherbee, (alt); Rik van Riel (alt); Ron Klemarczyk, city forester; Jeff Lewis and Kristine Tardiff of the Conservation Commission

Absent: Gail Page; Greg Mannesto

Staff: Beth Fenstermacher, Assistant City Planner

Guests: Ben Stephenson

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.

Reminder for the public

If you have a question or any trouble accessing this meeting please call the planning dept. at 603-225-8515 or send an email to: planning@concordnh.gov

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.

Reminder to Subcommittee members

- Please mute yourself when not speaking.
- Please raise your hand in the participants section of your Zoom screen.
 - Also, if viewing in gallery view. Wave your hand in front of the camera to make sure you are heard.
- In your zoom screen, change your view in the upper right corner from speaker view to gallery view to see all panelists.

Agenda items

1. Minutes from the August meeting were corrected to show David Ross was absent. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.
2. New Trail Updates
 - a. Backwoods: Still waiting to hear from Bob Gaffney and the Fisk Road association on granting permission for the Cart Path trail to cross Bob Gaffney's property. Otherwise the new trails are open and in use. Feedback on the trail would be welcome.
 - b. Knowlton Woods: Ron is getting ready for a timber harvest on the property but will leave a buffer zone around the planned trails, so work on the trails can begin anytime. Before work starts, Beth is finalizing an agreement with NEMBA similar to the Ry's Way agreement. The trailhead and parking lot will not be available until the logger is finished with the timber harvest. Ron plans to remove some hazard trees.
3. Trail Maintenance
 - a. Rob noted that Judy has done a lot of work on the trails this summer and asked her to report on her work.
 - Spears trails - Judy refreshed blazes and did some brushing. She noted that it's confusing at the power line crossings. Judy will install directional arrows. Ron will provide posts, Beth the trail and arrow signs and Rob will help install the posts.
 - Winant Park - Judy refreshed blazes on the blue/yellow trail and brushed it back.
 - b. Carter Hill trails - Fran is pursuing refreshing of blazes. Questioned the red/blue trail as shown on the map. Will contact Rob Larocque at the orchard for direction.
 - c. Ron's report:
 - Batchelder Mill: Removed a large limb. Will soon have time to address bypassing the wet area at the Curtisville end of the blue trail
 - O'Reilly- Fleetham: Will be removing downed trees soon. Will put keep-out signs for hikers on the snowmobile trail, which is private property
 - Riley lot (with intern): Removed a tree. Replaced some decking on the viewing platform
 - d. Weir Road: Beth updated the map with GPS tracks from Jeff Abbe. She will suggest that Jeff put directional signs at both ends of the field where the trail is confusing.

e. Trailheads: Beth asked that the committee members notify her of any signs or maps that are faded and need replacing. Rob will ask trail stewards to do the same when they monitor the property, as well as monitoring trailhead trash.

4. Other business

a. Riley Trail parking lot: General Services took care of some troublesome boulders in the parking lot and resurfaced the lot while they were doing work in the area.

b. Visitor - Ben Stephenson: Ben introduced himself as a hiker and biker who uses the trails and would like to do his part to maintain them. As well as working on the trails, he might be willing to be a part of the committee or be a trail steward. Ben lives on Hoit Road. Rob will see if there are trails that need a steward.

c. Beth reported that she received reports that there has been a lot of trash at the Jim Hill River Walk parking lot on Runnells Rd. and at Daisy Beach. David Ross offered to clean it up. Beth reminded us that she has blue bags from General Services for trailhead trash. General Services will pick them up at trailheads.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05

Next meeting is October 14, 2020 at 5:15

Respectfully submitted, Fran Philippe, Rob Knight