

KENSINGTON TRAIL COMMITTEE MEETING
126 Amesbury Road, Kensington, NH 03833
THURSDAY November 21, 2019 – 6:30pm
Minutes - DRAFT

Committee Members In Attendance: Joseph Hickey, Chris Carr, Alec Lager, Robert Chase, Timothy Estey, Carol Rogers

Absent: Mike Gross, Mason Holland, Jessica Benedetto

At 6:35pm Joe Hickey called the meeting to order

ADMINISTRATIVE TOPICS

1. Committee reviewed and approved October 24 meeting minutes

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Review of action items from previous meeting
 - a. **Trail jurisdiction:** Joe Hickey determined that the Conservation Commission has jurisdiction on town owned land placed in conservation status, while Board of Selectmen has jurisdiction over non-conserved town land.
 - b. **Town owned land and easement restrictions:** Mason Holland was not present to update on his review.
 - c. **Current condition of trails on town-owned property:**
 - i. Timothy Estey determined that large fallen trees are blocking some trails in the Hodges Conservation Area;
 - ii. The Meetinghouse trails are in overall good condition aside from a downed tree near Osgood Rd entrance;
 - iii. Town is evaluating the possibility of putting property informally known as the Moulton Ridge Town Forest (off Route 108) into conservation status which presents opportunity for the Trail Committee to engage with the Conservation Commission and/or easement administrator regarding trails and usage.
 - d. **SELT engagement**
 - i. Robert Chase shared that SELT has a tool library in Epping with tools that can be rented for trail maintenance purposes;
 - ii. Identified key contacts that may be useful in reaching out to private landowners;
 - e. **Additional Trail Resources**
 1. Trails guidebook from NH Fish and Game
 2. Avenza maps: allow you to use PDF maps as the basis for GPS mapping
 3. Trail forks: a mountain biking-oriented map tool that has recently partnered with Garmin
 - f. **Update on Conservation Commission outreach**

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1. Conservation Commission has a plan/approval for a small bridge to connect Moulton Ridge road with Hodges blue trail; beaver dams currently flooding entrance
2. Conservation Commission is evaluating options to mitigate beaver dams
3. Discussed signage in Hodges Conservation Area; conversation to be continued

NEXT STEPS

1. Develop template for assigning tasks for sub-groups within committee
2. Connect with Conservation Commission for posting no hunting signs at Hodges Conservation Area
3. Develop plan and approach for outreach and coordination with private landowners
4. Set up Facebook page for Trail Committee
5. Set up official, town email address for Trail Committee
6. Add Trail Committee mission statement and contact info on town website
7. Set trail maintenance dates, likely after hunting season
8. Continue work on trail map template
9. **Next meeting:** February 6, 6:30pm at the Kensington Social Library's Sawyer Room

At 8:00pm Joe Hickey motioned to adjourn. Timothy Estey seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Alec Lager