

Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
Trails Subcommittee
10/27/2021

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Greg Senko, Peter Coffin, Bob Smith, Geof Harris, Ernie Landry, Walt Roy, Brad Maxwell, Rick Russman

Discussion of minutes:

Minutes from the April meeting were accepted as written. MM&S.

Time Sheets

Volunteer Time Logs from August and Sept were missing from some participants. Greg filled them out before the meeting and collected signatures.

Discussion of potential next steps on selected properties:

Acorn Town Forest:

The timber harvest was put out for bid and C&C Chipping was selected to perform the harvest. A contract is being signed and timber cutting could begin as soon as November 1. According to the contract, it must be completed by March 1, 2021. Proceeds of the timber sale are estimated to be about \$16k. Signs are needed to indicate that the trails are closed during the timber harvest.

Valley Lane:

The debris from redecking the last two bridges was removed by the Boy Scouts. They also carried in lumber for a new bridge on the Blue Trail and cut back brush on all the trails. The new 12' bridge on the Blue Trail was built on Sept 25. There is no new information on the SELT purchase of the Alessio property. After the last storm, there are several trees down on the trails. Peter Coffin and Geof Harris will clean up the fallen trees on Friday October 29.

Frye Town Forest:

No new actions proposed.

Ahl/Noyes:

The snowmobile club will build a new bridge on the Ahl property to replace the bridge that was removed this year due to safety considerations. The new bridge will be built this fall in the location of the pedestrian bridge and the pedestrian bridge will be removed.

Sargent:

The new parking lot is mostly complete and looks fantastic. The Highway Department has done a great job on the entrance and parking lot. Gravel was laid down at the end of Sargent Road into the parking area, greatly improving the drive into the Sargent Property. Most of the parking lot was covered but the corners still need to be covered with fresh gravel to be level with the rest of the lot. Cement blocks will be used to block ATVs from the trail instead of a gate.

The trail to ET's Landing has been marked and a map is available on the CC web page. Steven Pawlowski joined the work session to cut back the brush and place the markers.

More "No ATV" signs need to be posted at the northern and southern ends of the property. Post will be required to place the signs in these open areas that don't have trees.

A game cam has been placed in the parking lot and needs to be serviced in the winter when Greg is not able to. Peter Coffin volunteered to attend to the camera this winter. Greg to give him spare batteries, second SD card and keys to the security box.

The large puddle under the power lines was discussed. This portion of the trail is in the powerline easement where no structures can be built. Other crossing points traverse a much longer wet area. The most practical solution proposed was to built bog bridges in this area. Will also contact power company to see if they would improve the road with a culvert.

A kiosk is needed in the parking area. It was proposed that a warrant article be started to make Sargent a town forest so that the forest fund could be applied here.

West Kingston Town Forest:

The game cam needs to be serviced in the winter when Greg is not able to. Geof Harris volunteered to attend to the camera this winter. Greg to give him spare batteries, second SD card and combination to the security box.

The trash (deck railing and windows) near the stone wall needs removing. Rick Russman will take a look at it and work with Ernie Landry to remove it.

Manuel Property:

The site work to clean up the loading/unloading zone and putting up signs will be done next spring.

New Business:

New volunteers – Mark Battle will help with kiosk graphics.

The kiosk design was discussed. The design is based on sketches that Peter Coffin prepared. Greg is making some revisions and will update the estimated cost.

Work Session Schedule:

No new work sessions are planned.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm

Next meeting: Dec 1 at 7:00 pm