

Draft Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
Trails Committee
8/31/2022
Kingston Community Library

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Present: Ernie Landry, Rick Russman, Walt Roy, Geof Harris, Bob Smith and Greg Senko

Discussion of minutes:

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

Discussion of potential next steps on selected properties:

Acorn Town Forest:

The kiosk materials have been purchased and the construction is 90% complete. Waiting for Peter to return to finish the construction and then will schedule an installation date.

Greg contacted Robert Pryne at the RPC to get an estimate of the cost to prepare the map graphics. His estimate is \$3,000 for two maps. Greg investigated several map programs and found that Caltopo has the best editing tools and base map. The group reviewed and approved an example trail map that Greg prepared. Mark Battle will help create the trail map sign for the kiosk artwork using the Caltopo map. A Caltopo subscription is needed to save maps and export in high resolution. Greg will request approval to purchase a \$50 one-year subscription to Caltopo.

Before a map is finalized and printed, several trail changes were considered:

- To avoid confusion by having two separate Blue trails, it was decided to remark the blue trail connector in the middle of the property to green markers.
- At the northern intersection of the Blue and Red trails there is a hill which is too steep. A short reroute was proposed to avoid the hill with a more appropriate grade.
- In Ron Klemarczyk's forestry plan, he noted a ledge near the Red trail that makes a great viewpoint. It was proposed to reroute a section of the red trail to include the viewpoint. It is a great spot to install a bench. The reroute will be placed to avoid the long, steep hill nearby.
- A connecting trail between the Red and Orange trails was proposed. Currently it is necessary to cross private land to get from one trail to the other. The connecting trail will bypass the private property and be located along the skidder track.

The Conservation Commission requested assistance with planting a chestnut tree at ACTF. Geof volunteered. Ernie noted that chestnut trees are a favorite of deer and suggested a fence should be installed around the tree to prevent its leaves from being eaten.

Valley Lane:

The Alessio property survey is now complete. SELT is preparing the baseline property documentation and a closing on the property is expected by the end of the year.

Frye Town Forest:

The Conservation Commission received a report from SELT that a resident near the town forest (TF) was concerned about a new shooting range at 2 Beaver Pond Road. It was reported that the shooting is occurring near to and in the direction of Colby Brook and the TF. Evy contacted the KPD and the shooting site was visited on Sept 1st. It was confirmed that the site is only approximately 350' from the Frye Blue Trail and about 550' to the Red Trail. There is a clear line of sight to the Blue trail's location. The berm between the two locations is only about 5' high, is located below the shooting bench and does not offer protection to Colby Brook and the trails. Due to the hazard this presents, the trails have been closed. Signs were installed to mark the trails as closed. See separate report for more details.

Ahl/Noves:

No discussion.

Sargent:

ET's landing is overgrown and needs a work session to cut the brush back so that there is a view from the bench.

West Kingston Town Forest:

No discussion.

Manuel Property:

The Highway Department installed all the signs, and a game camera has been installed at the launch. The launch is ready for use. One bench that was intended for Frye will be installed there. Chain will be used to secure the bench to a tree.

New Business:

Work Session Schedule:

Acorn Town Forest – Remark Blue connector trail and Red trail reroute - Sept 15th, 8am

Acorn Town Forest – Red trail reroute to include lookout ledge – Sept 22nd, 8am

Acorn Town Forest – Connect Red trail to Orange – Sept 29th, 8am

ETs Landing – Cut back brush – Oct 4th, 8am

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Next meeting: Oct 26th at 7pm