

Draft Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
Trails Committee
8/30/2023
Kingston Community Library

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Walt Roy, Bob Smith, Peter Coffin, and Greg Senko were joined by new members Clarissa Finks and Ryan Magnus

Discussion of minutes:

Minutes from the April 26 meeting were accepted as written. MM&S.

Volunteer Forms:

Volunteer Service Statement & Agreement forms were completed by Clarissa and Ryan. Volunteer time log sheets for May, June and August were completed by the other attendees. Signatures from Rick and Ernie are required to complete the log sheets.

Acorn Town Forest:

Status update:

- Two bridges were installed on the White trail.
- The approach to the second, more northern bridge has irregular surface and is always mushy. That section of trail needs work.
- SELT is asking what action is being taken to remove the filled in stream just off the Red trail.

Next actions:

- The town can provide wood chips to treat the White trail. Greg will coordinate with the DPW to get the chips. A work session is scheduled for Thursday Sept. 21 at 8am to spread them on the trail.
- Ryan will check the trail from the parking lot to the filled in stream to see if it is possible to drive his excavator there to remove the fill from the stream.

Valley Lane:

Status update:

- Tree down near Red and Orange Trail intersection.
- SELT provide .gpx boundary information for the new property.
- Greg has mapped the existing trails and logging roads in the new property.

- A map of Plaistow's recreational trail plan for the Mt. Misery area was obtained. The trail won't come close to the new property. At this time it won't be feasible to connect the VLTF to the Plaistow trail.
- Dan Bartley has given us permission to use his driveway access a ROW to the Orange trail. This is the best access for bringing in materials for work on new trails.
- An iron pipe corner marker next to the Orange trail has been knocked down and it's proper location cannot be precisely determined. The trail is too close to the corner and should be moved away to prevent trail users from disturbing the marker. The corner will need to be surveyed to establish the exact location for the marker.

Next actions:

- A short work session is scheduled for Saturday Sept 2, 8am to remove the downed tree and explore trail options on the new property.

Frye Town Forest:

Status Update:

- The new kiosk has been built and is ready to be installed.

Next actions:

- A work session is scheduled for Saturday Sept 16, 8am to install the kiosk.
- The UTV or an ATV will be needed to haul a trailer to the trailhead.
- Prepare and print a new map for the kiosk.

Ahl/Noves:

Status: The trails are in good condition and no work is needed.

Sargent:

Status update: During a recent monitoring walk with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), it was observed that there is considerable ATV activity disturbing There are deep tracks in the mud and some of the area has been filled in. TNC requested the following actions:

- The gate and wetlands area in the wooded area near the "power line elbow" were posted with "No ATV" signs
- The fill still needs to be removed from the wetlands area near the "power line elbow".
- A game camera to monitor the parking area is planned.
- Rocks were added at the gate posts to restrict motorcycle access.
- The new kiosk has been built and is ready to be installed.

Next Actions:

- A work session is scheduled for Thursday Sept 7, 8am to install the kiosk.
- Prepare and print a map for the kiosk.
- Greg will order the game camera.

West Kingston Town Forest:

Status update: In May the rock wall along the western boundary was repaired by the TC.

Next Actions: None planned.

Manuel Property:

Status update:

- Two wooden benches were built and installed near the boat launch.
- The kiosk was built and installed at the parking lot.

Next Actions:

- Prepare and print the map for the kiosk.

New Business:

Work Session Schedule:

As noted above.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

Next meeting: September 27th at 7pm