

Draft Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
Trails Committee
4/24/2024
Kingston Community Library

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Rick Russman, Tom O'Steen, Peter Coffin, Greg Senko, Alec Porter, Clarissa Finks, Ryan Magnus, Evelyn Nathan, Walt Roy, John Hoar

Discussion of minutes:

Minutes from the October 25 meeting were accepted as written. MM&S.

Volunteer Forms:

New volunteer appointment forms were handed out at the meeting.

Acorn Town Forest:

Status update:

- There are several trees down across the trails, Locations were shown on a map. A work session is needed to clear them as all the smaller trees have been removed, only the larger trees remain.
- There are some holes in the wood chips on the White Trail near the bridge that need to be filled.
- There are two sections of the Red Trail that are wetter and muddier than in past years. Improved drainage is needed.

Next actions:

- A work session is planned for April 27 at 9 am.
 - Clear downed trees, re-post No ATV sign at stone wall
 - Add more wood chips to the White Trail.
 - Reroute one section of Blue Trail and plan bridges for other sections.
 - Improve drainage on the Red Trail near the southern White Trail intersection.
- Improve drainage on wet sections of Red Trail in future work session. Materials and equipment needed.

Valley Lane:

Status update:

- Downed trees have been cleared.

- Invasive plants at trailhead to be removed.
- Boundary blazes need repainting with red paint.
- There are several wet areas along the red trail that need improvement.
- The White Trail should be extended to loop back to the Red Trail.
- The handrail bridge on the Blue/Red trail needs repair.

Next actions:

- A work session is planned for May 4th at 8am
 - Remove invasive plants at trailhead – Walt to borrow weed wrenches.
 - Evaluate options for extending the White Trail.
 - Evaluate wet sections of Red Trail.
- Update the kiosk map after the White Trail work is completed.
- Paint blazes in warmer and dryer conditions.
- Replace boulders at the trailhead with a gate.

Frye Town Forest:

Status update:

- Trails and bridges are in good condition.
- Melissa Parry proposed a parking lot for the TF on the corner of her property which lies at the southern corner of Towle and Frye Roads. The land is being logged and some improvements have been made to the northern end of Frye Road for equipment access. She has permission from Danville to make additional road improvements. She hopes that there will be enough money from the timber sale to improve the road for passenger vehicle access.

Next actions:

- Extend White Trail through the boulders near the property boundary.

Ahl/Noves:

Status update:

- The approach to the bridge is very wet this spring with a few persistent puddles.

Next actions:

- Install walkway over the wet area.

Sargent:

Status update:

- The culvert has been installed on the Blue Trail. The utility easement ROW has been paved with crushed rock from the orange gate to the new pole location.
- The neighboring Whitcomb property has been purchased by The Nature Conservancy.

Next actions:

- Install the ET's Landing sign along the Blue Trail.

West Kingston Town Forest:

Status update:

- The trails and bridges are in good condition.

Next actions:

- Plan an extension of the White Trail along Rockrimmon Road.

Manuel Property:

Status update:

- There is a tree down on the trail.
- The launch area is in good condition.

Next actions:

- Remove downed tree.
- Continue monitoring the game camera.

Rowell Estates/Currier Wildlife Management Area:

Next actions:

- Map the trails and roads in this area.
- Plan a public access point.

New Business:

Meet with KFD to discuss fire and rescue access. Greg to schedule and inform group of meeting time.

Work Session Schedule:

Acorn TF - Saturday April 27 9am
Valley Lane – Saturday May 4 8am