

**TRAILS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HOPKINTON, NH**  
**MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT**

May 7, 2019, 7:00 pm; Hopkinton Town Hall

Members present: Lucia Kittredge, Chair; Cleve Kapala, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Pierre Vanden Borre.

Meeting minutes from April 9, 2019 accepted. **Next meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 2019, 7 pm; Location: Town Hall**

Ransmeier Parking Lot: Ron provided an update on communications with Five Rivers Conservation Trust. He and Lee Wilder sent a letter to Beth McGuinn and Alison Scheiderer at Five Rivers explaining the Conservation Commission's recommendation. The Five Rivers lands committee will meet on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> and may discuss the issue. Ron showed a schematic drawing of the proposed parking and driveway.

Ransmeier connector to Greenway: Cleve flagged a trail from the Ransmeier parking lot to the Greenway, joining the trail at the Derek's Brook bridge. Ron pointed out that the best and most direct route would cross one or two private ownerships, with the advantage of avoiding another brook crossing. Cleve will contact the owners to see if they will give permission for a very short section of trail to connect to the Greenway. If not, walkers will have to follow the blue trail and loop back around as they do now. Improved signage at the Ransmeier parking area would help hikers connect to the Greenway.

Trail maintenance: Cleve is working with various crew volunteers on spring clean-up. Cleve brought up the fact that trails on properties owned or managed by other organizations may not be consistently maintained and could reflect poorly on Hopkinton's trail network. Examples include the Sweatt Preserve (owned by Five Rivers Conservation Trust) and the Brockway Preserve (managed by NH Audubon). Frequent users often clear up blow-downs and keep trails open. Committee agreed to identify these trails on the website and, if non-maintenance becomes a serious issue, approach the organizations to find a solution.

Trail signs: the committee reviewed the design of current signage on our network of trails with the goal of keeping signage simple and of consistent design. It was agreed that directional signs will be white with black lettering and border, similar to the Derek's Brook sign. Lucia will work with Bob LaPree to mock up new signs, to be ordered from the NH Corrections sign shop once costs are approved.

Spring trail event: to be held on National Trails Day, June 1, 2019 (first Saturday in June) to be at Hawthorne Forest at 1 pm. Pierre will work with Lucia to organize and publicize the event. We will provide light refreshments at the end of the hike.

New trail planning: Ron worked with Patrick Quinn and members of his Boy Scout troop over April vacation to clear the new trail loop on the Rollins property. Eight scouts and two adults spent several days clearing the trail and dragging brush. Ron has put in considerable time supervising the work and brushing out the 64-foot bridge. He will recruit volunteers from the HCC to help build the bridge. Patrick Quinn is raising money for trails signs. The committee recommends white signs with black letters, similar to the Derek's Brook sign. Ron recommends blue blazing. Ron hopes to have the proposed parking area on the log landing off Little Tooky Road completed in the fall. There is sufficient gravel on site to complete the work. The trail has not yet been named.

Other Business: Ron mentioned that a landowner on New Road (south of the highway) will be upgrading the Class 6 road for a forestry operation, providing an opportunity for trail use in the future. The current roadway is too wet for reliable use.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35

Respectfully submitted,  
Lucia Kittredge, Chair