

TRAILS SUB COMMITTEE MEETING
HOPKINTON, NH
MEETING MINUTES – Approved 9-17-18
September 12, 1017 7:00 pm
HOPKINTON TOWN HALL

Members present: Lucia Kittredge, Chair; Cleve Kapala, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Bob LaPree

Putney Hill to Cross Road Trail:

The committee discussed progress on the new Putney Hill to Cross Road trail. Most of the trail work has been completed over the summer. Cleve has obtained trail agreements from all involved landowners in this section. Jeff Dearborn installed a parking area on Cross Road for his Xmas tree farm, with the idea that it will be available for walkers in the non tree-cutting season. Jeff also installed self-closing gates in his deer fencing so that walkers can easily pass through. Next steps are to blaze and sign the trail and flag a short loop trail to a look-out over the large wet area. Blazing color will be the same light blue as the Putney-Greenway connector. Cleve, Ron and Bob will coordinate a time to work in the field. The committee discussed a possible trail opening in the spring of 2018.

Rollins Lot Trail

The proposed trail from Contoocook Village to the Rollins Lot was discussed. Ron will contact Brad Simpkins about involving his Boy Scout troop to help cut the trail. An Eagle Scout is possibly interested in taking this on as a project. Ron will flag the route which includes a 65-foot boardwalk across a wet area. Ron estimates a cost of \$2,000 for boardwalk materials. He will request this amount from the Conservation Commission at their September 19th meeting. Ron will also obtain the necessary wetland permit for the boardwalk.

Lucia reported that she met with the Hopkinton Cemetery Trustees in June to discuss routing the proposed trail through the Contoocook Cemetery. The Cemetery Trustees expressed interest in allowing pedestrians to travel on the existing cemetery paths from the entrance on Route 103 to Little Tooky Road. They would like to approve the design and location of all trail related signs in the cemetery. Bob Gerseny, Chair of the Cemetery Trustees, had suggested that the Trails Committee obtain a copy of the deed granted to the Town of Hopkinton for the ROW out to Tooky Road to be certain there are no use restrictions. Lucia will research this deed (Book 902, Page 197) at the Merrimack Country Registry of Deeds.

Website use and proposed updates:

Kathy Barnes has proposed an update to the Conservation Lands Website to make it easier to access trail maps and more compatible for smart phones users in the field. The site is getting about 250 visits per month. Most of those “hits” are for trail maps and information, with Mast Yard, Hopkinton Village Greenway, Kimball Lake and Stevens Rail Trail receiving the most hits. Lucia will work with Kathy on the proposed update. Kathy continues to offer her web design services as a volunteer.

Other business:

Rob reported on the recent trail improvements on the Sweatt Preserve, for Fiver Rivers Conservation Trust. A group of trail runners and mountain bikers rerouted sections of the trail and built new bridges.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucia Kittredge