

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

April 22, 2021, 7:00 pm; by ZOOM

Members present: Lucia Kittredge, Chair; Cleve Kapala, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Bob LaPree, Melissa Jones, Pierre Vanden Borre;

Meeting minutes from October 12, 2020 accepted.

**Update on trail stewards and trail maintenance:**

Cleve reported that trail stewards have been out on the trails for spring cleanup. He has cut a number of blow downs with help from trail crew members. This spring has had an unusual number of wind events.

Brockway Preserve: Cleve met with a neighbor interested in volunteering at Brockway. Ron, Bob and Cleve will arrange a time to visit the property and develop a plan and cost estimate for rebuilding the bridge off Farrington Corner Road. The current bridge was constructed by Derek Owen years ago and should be replaced with a plank walk. Ron gave a brief history of the property which was acquired primarily for wildlife management. The existing short trail was designed for use by Audubon's education program and was not planned to connect with the woods road off Lower Straw Road. All plans will be coordinated with the Conservation Commission and NH Audubon.

Trail blazing: Goal is to re-blaze Greenway (Kimball Lake done last fall), Greenway connector from Putney Hill, and Blackwater Loop/Contoocook Overlook Trail on Bohanan. Pierre will be available later in the summer to blaze at Bohanan; Melissa is available now. Lucia to coordinate times and will provide paint for Greenway blazing.

Trail signs: Blackwater Loop, Contoocook Overlook Trail junction; Lucia will research available funds from previous approval and coordinate with Melissa if additional funds are needed from the HCC.

**Coordination with other groups:**

Eagle Scout projects: Kiosk for Little Tooky Trail: Ron has not heard back from Eagle Scout. Ron is working with another Eagle Scout who is interested in expanding the trail at Houston Field to create a loop. Ron determined that the trail route is entirely within Town boundaries.

Concord-Sunapee Rail Trail: Ron met with members of the Concord Lake Sunapee Rail Trail to walk the proposed extension of the Rail Trail between Kearsarge Road and Houston fields. The land will be donated by TDS Telecom.

Recreation Department:

Paula Simpkins asked if summer campers at Kimball Lake could construct fairy houses along the trails. The committee agreed but requested that they be removed at the end of the season and that Paula post a sign asking hikers not to disturb the fairy houses. Lucia will follow up with Paula about cooperating on a summer hike challenge.

Abenaki Trails Project: Several members of the Trails Committee attended the Hopkinton Historical Society annual meeting with a presentation by Sherry Gould and Darryl Peasley of the Abenaki Trails project. They are leading several field trips in Contoocook this summer:

July 11: Paddle trip on Contoocook River

Sept 18: Bohanan Farm hike to Corser Hill to visit site where Indigenous people ground corn on boulders in the field.

Lucia will coordinate with Jamie Robertson about improvements to Corser Hill trail access.

**Future trail planning:**

Tyler Landing Trail: The Conservation Commission will schedule a site visit to flag a loop trail along the river. The trail will require a short bridge across the drainageway. The Commission wants to create a boat access at Tyler Landing that will replace the boat ramp on Bohanan Farm property. The aluminum ramp might be re-purposed as a bridge. Ron, Rob and Bob to coordinate.

Future connector to Audubon's Chase Preserve: Cleve discussed a long-term plan to connect the section of New Road south of Interstate-89 to Jewett Road. The Class 6 road has been recently improved for logging access and, now that it is dry, allows a possible connection to the Audubon Chase Preserve and the town-owned Alan Lewis Lot off Jewett Road. Cleve will work with volunteers to scout out a potential trail. Another possible route is to connect to trails off South Road but this would require permission from a private landowner.

Website and Facebook updates: currently up to date.

Meeting adjourned, 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Lucia Kittredge, Chair