



Town of
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Trails Committee

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Minutes
Tuesday, January 22, 2019
Trails Committee
Meeting Start at or about 7:00pm

Present: Tom Rogers, Member of the Conservation Commission
Jerry Jaworski, Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission
James Gibson, Mountain Bike Community
Michele Decoteau, Hiker, Biker, Eagle Scout
Kevin Majeski, Brookline IceBreaker Snowmobile Club

Trail Committee

Tom said the Conservation Commission has been discussing forming a trails committee for the past few years. The conservation commission wanted all user groups to be present or to be a part of this committee so that all users are spoken for: IceBreakers, equestrian riders, hikers, mountain bikers, walkers, joggers, Eagle Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. The Conservation Commission has more to discuss than just trails and this committee should free up a lot of the Conservation Commission's time. This will give the Trails Committee more time to discuss trail maintenance, trail projects that need to be completed, new trails if needed. The Trails Committee is not a decision-making entity. The Conservation Commission will make all decisions regarding spending any money. They are a subcommittee of the Conservation Commission. All policy and spending decisions will ultimately go to the Conservation Commission for discussion and a final vote.

Trail Committee Membership

The committee members introduce themselves.

Tom said is a member of the Conservation Commission, he loves the trails and being outdoors. When he first moved here, he never ran into anyone out in the woods and thought they needed to try to get people out there more. He loves the trails loves hiking and tracking. **Jerry** said he is also a member of the Conservation Commission he is out on the trails all the time. He said his first meeting was the one where the Conservation Commission advertised they would be closing a trail to mountain bikers and the meeting room was full of people. He started attending primarily for the hiking aspect. He likes the fact that the Conservation Commission has worked hard to open up the land to the residents. **James Gibson** said he is a 4th grade teacher and has two boys that love to mountain bike and be outside. He is here as a mountain bike representative. He recently

built the mountain bike trail in Hobart Fessenden Woods. **Michelle Decouteau** said she is here representing the Eagle Scouts, the walkers, and hikers that use the trails. Her son had just completed an Eagle Scout project and she has also worked with the Girl Scout's Cordelia Scales to complete the wheeled chair accessible covered picnic table that is located at the Cider Mill Pond parking area. **Kevin Majeski** introduced himself as a member of the Brookline IceBreaker Club he is here to represent the snowmobile users of the trails. They use a lot of the trails in Brookline and would like a good working relationship and to have an organized way of getting people together to complete trail projects. **Tom** said they opened a trail on Kegy Road to improve access so that Kevin can use his groomer to groom that side of Brookline. They have one more person that is interested in being a member of this trails committee that is an equestrian rider but was unable to attend this meeting.

Discuss Committee Charter

The committee agreed that the Conservation Commission should be creating the charter for this committee and they should discuss it at the next meeting.

Overview of Trails Committee Function

Jerry said they can plan out a trail but will need final ok from the Conservation Commission. We would not need approval for trail maintenance. **Buddy** said just check with the Conservation Commission especially if you are going to have a piece of machinery out there. **Tom** said grants would need to go through the Conservation Commission also. **Buddy** said a list of projects would be a great idea first. **Jerry** asked everyone to brainstorm any projects they can think of so they can start a list. The commission agreed to set up google documents that can be seen by all and everyone can make comments to. **Jerry** suggested they go out to the Palmer Bartell area to review the mountain bike trails and to plan rerouting of the sections that are on private property.

Mapping & Signing project for trails

Tom said he has the tools to create signs for the trails. He would like everybody to make a list of trails that may need signs including those at intersections with arrows if needed. **Tom** is willing to make the signs. He just needs people to let him know what is missing. **Jerry** said NRPC will come out to do the mapping.

Volunteer Opportunities – trail adoption, community engagement, etc.

Tom said he would like to get the word out about trail adoption. Let's get that on social media so people can start thinking about it. **James** asked what would be the responsibility of the people that would be adopting the trail or area. **Tom** said they would just need to go out and check the area and make sure it looks good. They can cut back trails, use loppers to cut small stuff. If anything needs to be done that would be a bigger project, they could contact us and let us know. For example, a tree that needs to be cut down with a chainsaw as opposed to loppers. **Jerry** said communication will be the key. **Michele** said the more user friendly the trails are, the more people we will see out there. **Tom** said the more people are invested in the trails, the more support the Conservation Commission will have. **Kevin** said the IceBreakers have been working on the Hood Road crossing. They are looking for an ok from the State to cross Route 13. There are special sight distance and regulations that they will need to meet. If anyone has any ideas, please let him know. They are looking for any suggestions at this point to change the crossing they have now.

Adjourn

Michelle made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM . Seconded by Jerry. Vote yes 5-0.

Tom Rogers, _____

Jerry Jaworski, _____

James Gibson, _____

Michele Decoteau, _____

Kevin Majeski, _____

Minutes submitted by Kristen Austin

Next meeting will be held on February 26, 2019

This meeting was held in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Main Street