

Loudon Trails Subcommittee
Monday, March 25, 2024 – 4 PM
Charlie's Barn, 29 South Village Road, Loudon, NH 03307

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Sandy Blanchard	Deb Eastman-Proulx
Martha Butterfield	Lynda Caine
John Mesick	Nancy Huckins
Dave Emerson	Laura Vincent
Kevin Healey	Joan Zito
Stephen Smith	Dean Murray

Central NH Regional Planning Commission Staff: Vincent Pagano

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- Meeting convened at 4:00 PM
- Introductions

2. Review 2/26/24 Meeting Minutes

- DRAFT minutes had been emailed to members present
- There were no additions/corrections to the proposed Minutes
- The minutes were voted on and accepted

3. N'Dakinna

- After GPSing the 2 new trails, Martha was unable to forward the information
 - Therefore, the 2 new trails still need to be GPS'd
- Scenic view point for future bench has been cleared

4. Kirby Tract

- Remaining materials for the 2nd bridge were purchased
 - Materials have been cut up, routed, drilled, labeled and are ready to go
 - Need granite for steps
 - Sandy will check with the Road Agent
 - Ask around town – post on social media
 - If none available, \$58 is needed to purchase wood/materials for steps
- Area needs to dry out before bridge materials can be transported in
- Steve and John will prep area and take care of any trees in the way
- Bridge will probably take a couple of days to build – plan is to do this in April
- John will send out an email when things have dried out
- John spoke with a neighbor/abutter about the new bridge placement
 - Abutter is fine with the bridge going in but would like small trees transplanted for screening

5. Bachelor

- Main bridge that was damaged by a fallen tree has been repaired and is very secure
 - Sandy noticed a turkey tail mushroom growing on the pressure treated wooden bridge; moisture concerns
- Stepping stones, instead of bog bridging, can be used on the trail next to the 3 snowmobile bridges
 - Area debris needs to be cleaned out
 - Stones can be moved with a come along
 - Need to wait for things to dry out
 - Reblaze once stones are in place
- Group walk took place on a proposed new trail
 - Consensus is that it would make a great addition to the existing trail system
 - Interested in getting wildlife impact report/action plan map on the area – Vincent to send
 - Needs to be walked more
- ATV activity reported where the Yellow Trail enters Bachelor Trails. No ATV signs have been put up in that area. We can't, however, prohibit ATVs from using the snowmobile trail.

6. Epp's Mill

- Steve and Sandy cleared downed trees/branches
- Trail map is faded; Vincent to print a new one

7. Lovejoy

- Martha has cleared the rerouted section of the White Trail by the stone wall
 - This new section needs to be blazed
 - Directional arrow to be added
 - Leave old section of the trail as is? People can go either way?
- Orange Trail
 - Martha has been working on this and moving a section to higher ground
- Red Trail
 - Needs to be designated a different color as there is already a Red Trail at Lovejoy. Perhaps green – same as at Kirby?

8. Nex Trex

- Getting close to 1,000 lbs. for the next bench
- Keep the plastic coming!

9. Rec Trail

- A section of the trail is under water; look at this in the summer to see if the trail needs to be rerouted to higher ground

10. Financial – John Mesick

- \$353 left in ARP COVID 19 funds
 - Estimated future expenditures:
 - Concrete blocks to raise bridge at Kirby: \$18
 - Materials to secure main bridge at Kirby: \$91
 - Materials to secure 2nd bridge at Kirby: \$22
 - If granite pieces are not available for steps at the 2nd bridge at Kirby, Wood and materials for steps: \$58
 - Thompson Water Seal (5 gallon) for bog bridging boards: \$77
 - Balance remaining would be \$87

11. Volunteer Hours (Martha)

- Bachelder Trails – 519
- Epps Mills Trails – 237
- Kirby Tract – 736
- Lovejoy Trails – 650
- Recreation Trail – 36
- N'Dakinna – 675

12. Regular Trail Visit Checklist

- Final Reporting for 2023/2024 Q4 (Dec-Feb)
- Reporting began for 2024/2025 Q1 (Mar-May)

13. Other Business

- Dave Emerson updated us on the Canterbury/Kimball Pond Trail project
- Mike Boisvert and Jon Normand came to the last Conservation Commission Meeting
 - Conservation Comm. has no problem with us working with them on their trails
 - Trails need to be GPS'd with way points
 - Info can then go to Vincent for maps to be made
 - Boisvert-Normand Nature Conservancy Trails can be added to the:
 - Loudon Town Website
 - QR Coding
 - Google Maps
 - Conservation Comm. to pay for the 911 Street # signage at the trailhead
- Vincent reported that the QR codes to date have been updated
- Vincent also reported that the Central Regional Planning and Loudon Trail info has been updated and is in sync
- Vincent printed out maps of Loudon and a few neighboring towns that shows some of the following: conservation land per town, Tax Assessing Data, Ownership of land, current trails, wetlands, streams, lakes/ponds. We need to keep in mind, however, that some info derived from tax maps is inaccurate.

14. Next Meeting Date: April 26, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM