

TRAILS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
HOPKINTON, NH
MEETING MINUTES – Approved April 22, 2021

October 12, 2020, 7:00 pm; by ZOOM

Members present: Lucia Kittredge, Chair; Cleve Kapala, Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Bob LaPree, Melissa Jones, Pierre Vanden Borre;
Florence Dapice, member of the public

Meeting minutes from December 3, 2019 accepted.

Update on trail stewards:

Cleve has recruited two new trail steward (Chip Morgan and Rick Desmarais) and confirmed continued stewardship from others. Trail stewards include:

Chip Morgan:	Kimball Lake trails
Rick Desmarais:	Graves Road
Ron Klemarczyk:	Little Tooky Trail, Stevens Rail Trail, Wilder Rock and new loop trail off Stevens
Pierre Vanden Borre;	Bohanan Trails
Cleve Kapala:	Putney to Cross Road trail; Greenway from Old Putney to Old Stagecoach
Dave Luneau:	Putney- Greenway connector
Gary York:	First Parsonage trail

Trail updates

Hopkinton Village Greenway: needs blazing; Cleve and Lucia have completed some sections; more blazing needed in spring. Trail getting lots of use during pandemic.

Putney-Cross Trail: need sign from Lundquist property to Greenway connector on Putney Hill. Cleve is talking to Glen Crathern about a minor trail relocation on Crathern property away from a family memorial bench.

Stevens Rail trail: Ron discussed the proposed loop trail off of Stevens Rail Trail. The trail and funds for signage have been approved by the Hopkinton Conservation Commission. Discussed possible names and settled on Hemlock Spur Trail. Ron provided a brief history of how the town acquired the Stevens Rail property. Mr. Stevens lived on Kearsarge Road and sold the 16-acre property, with 2 miles of abandoned railbed, to the town years ago for \$10,000. Ron will complete trail work on the Hemlock Spur Road and will order and install signs. Lucia to send Ron the contact information for All Signs Company in Hillsborough.

Hawthorne Forest bridge: a trail user had reported concerns about the safety of the bridge over Rachel Brook. Ron checked it out and determined the bridge to be in good shape. Concern was raised about horses using the trail but it was determined to be a single incident. If this becomes a problem, we will add a "Pedestrians Only" sign on the bridge.

Little Tooky Trail: Ron will be working with an Eagle Scout to design and build a kiosk at the trailhead on Little Tooky Road. A kiosk near the gazebo in Riverway Park is a long-term goal that needs to be coordinated with the Recreation Department and other user groups.

Blackwater Loop and Contoocook Overlook Trails: need improved signage at trail junction.

Trail Policy: Discussed posting Trail Policy guidelines at trailheads. Lucia will have copies of the one-page Trail Policy laminated. Bob LaPree and Lucia to post at kiosks and trailheads.

Future trail planning: discussed several possibilities for trail connectors in town with the goal of connecting the Hopkinton Village Greenway to the trails at Bohanan Farm, and to the Village of Contoocook. Pierre will consider potential links to connect town trails and Class 6 roads with Mast Yard State Forest for trail bikes and trail runners.

Website: Lucia will send information on Wilder Rock and the Hemlock Spur Trail to Kathy Barnes for addition to the website. The Wilder Rock description will include a link to Lee Wilder's description of glacial boulders and erratics, along with a description of how to access LiDAR maps.

Facebook page: Pierre will post a message about the new Hemlock Spur Trail.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucia Kittredge, Chair