

**Nottingham Conservation Commission (NCC)
Nottingham Trails Committee (NTC) Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 7, 2023**

Attending: Sam Demeritt (SD), Tom Eid (TE), Michael Koester (MK), Susan Mooney (SM)

SD opened the meeting at 6:37 pm.

Announcements: hunting season and hiking on town trails: Nottingham is located in state Wildlife Management Unit L, an area bordered by Concord, Manchester, Portsmouth, Raymond, and Rochester. Hikers are encouraged to wear bright orange hats/gloves/clothing when traveling on the town's trails during the September through December deer hunting season. Key deer season hunting dates are:

- Archery: September 15 through December 15
- Muzzleloader: October 28 through November 7
- Firearm: November 8 through December 3

Review and approve minutes of August 3, 2023: the August 3, 2023 minutes were discussed and approved. Motion to approve and second by SM and TE.

Project and action items: planning and updates for 2023: trailside grass and sedge clearing was completed at Marsh Woods Conservation Area (Beaver Alley Trail) in late August. NTC trails will be evaluated in September for grass, foliage, trail-side plant growth, and debris for mitigation.

Nottingham Parks and Recreation Department 2023 hiking programs: the Legacy Leaders program has Fall Foliage Hiking/Walking Group hikes scheduled twice a month from September (first hike is September 8) through November (final hike is November 17), six hikes in total: <https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/parks-recreation-department/pages/fall-foliage-hikingwalking-group>. NTC members will assist and participate as needed and when available.

Marsh Woods hiking map updates: the new hiking map and information sign for the Marsh Woods Conservation Area was installed and content updated on the trailhead kiosk on September 7.

Autumn season hikes: TE will lead two family-friendly hikes during the autumn season. The hikes will be at a leisurely pace and encourage knowledge sharing and collaboration:

- Autumn Equinox hike: Sunday, September 24, 11:30 AM, Terninko Conservation Area
- Forest walk-and-talk: Sunday, October 8, 11:00 AM, Marsh Woods Conservation Area.

Other topics: the NTC is evaluating a 2024 project to create a hiking booklet for the town's trails, similar to a book written for the walking trails of Barrington, NH.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM; moved and seconded by SM and MK.