

**Nottingham Conservation Commission
Trails Committee Minutes
Thursday, January 3, 2019 – 6:30 PM
Nottingham Town Office, Conference Room #2**

Attending: Liz Kotowski, Celia Abrams, Sam Demeritt, Deb Kimball

Welcome and announcements

- Nottingham's "Earth Fest 2019" will be held on Saturday, September 21. We may try to do another walk this year, perhaps at Marsh Woods or the school property, with more publicity. The raffle and auction will again benefit the Nottingham Conservation Commission.
- SELT is looking for temporary land stewards
- The deadline to apply for NH Coverts Project volunteer training is 3/1/19. Training will be held May 15-18, 2019. .
- Bear-Paw annual meeting is Saturday 1/26 at the Hooksett Library. Their Breakfast in the Barn is Saturday 5/4 in Strafford.

Kennard Forest

- **Easement Status:** Recorded in October. LK will see if we can get a copy of the recorded CE Deed and Plan to put on the Drive.
- **Property Maps:** New draft topographic map created by Liz's friend Jim Arsenault, who produces orienteering maps. Jim's map shows water features, stonewalls, trails, boulders, cliffs, stony ground, the cellar hole, and a few other features. We discussed modifications to make it more useful for hiking, such as using colors for trails, de-emphasizing the contour lines and switching from 5m to 3m intervals, as well as enlarging the map. NTC members should send LK their comments and suggestions.
- **Trail Design and Maintenance:** A new trail is shown on recent maps made by Jim and CA and flagged by LK and CA on 12/8. The new trail runs NE from the southern edge of the property to the east boundary stone marker near the vernal pool, then continues NW over the upland area north of the vernal pool, rejoining the main trail near the culvert. This is roughly the same track that KC and LK scouted out a couple of months ago.
- **Action:** Several new blow-downs were encountered that will need more chainsaw work this spring.

Marsh Woods

- **Trail Design and Maintenance:** (Workday 12/12/18) We checked the Tasker connector and found the south end was under water/ice. There is a mound of earth separating this wet area from the river and preventing drainage. LK would like us to investigate rerouting the

connector onto the recycle center/landfill property. CA and LG walked the River Loop Trail north of the mill site after Mark and LK left. Parts of this trail need pruning and flagging, and a minor wetlands crossing should be installed. Mark Wageling, a Pawtuckaway Lake resident, helped us by cutting all the blow-downs on the Merriam-Daggett portion of Marsh Woods between the entrance and the mill. CA, LK, and LG attended all or part of the walk and cleared the logs cut by Mark.

- **Historical Significance:** While at the mill site, we picked up a heavy piece of metal, which LG researched and learned was a planer blade used by the shingle and clapboard mill that replaced the carding mill. See the Marsh Woods folder on the Drive for the *Mill History* document summarizing the reports from LG over the past year. We can include this information as part of our educational outreach on the property.

Upcoming NTC Activities

- LK will be away from 1/18 until 2/2. JB and KC are available 1/26-27 and 2/2-3. January 26 conflicts with the Bear-Paw Annual Meeting. The 27th might work for the group if someone wants to organize a workday.
- Tentative walk scheduled on the Marston property for Sunday, Feb 3, beginning at 2pm. KD has expressed an interest in seeing this property

Admin/Housekeeping

- **Drive:** The Terninko folder disappeared from the Drive's Property Profiles folder a couple weeks ago for reasons unknown. Krystal was able to restore most of the contents. CA restored some of her photos and LK will restore some of hers. CA will add some standard folders (Maps, Photos, Deeds & Surveys, Management Plans) to each of the Property Profiles.
- **Meeting Minutes:** 12/1/18 edited and unanimously approved (moved by SD, seconded by CA).
- **Action Items:**
 - LK will contact NH Trails about which BMP document (2004 or 2017) should be used. They are formatted differently but share some content.
 - CA will send the GPS track of the new Kennard trail to Jim.

Adjourned (moved by CA, seconded by SD) unanimously approved, at 8:05pm

Next meeting: Thursday, February 7– 6:30 PM, Conf. Room #2.

Submitted by: Celia Abrams

Approved: 2/7/2019