

**Nottingham Conservation Commission  
Trails Committee Minutes  
Thursday, October 4, 2018 – 6:30 PM  
Nottingham Town Office, Conference Room #2**

Attending: Liz Kotowski, Celia Abrams, Deb Kimball, Krystal Costa, Jon Balanoff. Guests: Donna Danis and Matt Kouchoukos, who left at 7:25 and 7:15, respectively.

Welcome and introductions

Presentation and discussion on Marston Property, by Matt Kouchoukos and Donna Danis

- An engineering analysis of the property was created pro bono by a Nottingham resident. An Alteration of Terrain (AoT) permit for the plan, good for 10 years, was approved in November 2017 by DES. Phase 1 of the plan includes a parking lot and two small softball fields with alternate soccer/football/lacrosse field near the entrance to the property. Additional ball fields (one a regulation-size baseball diamond), a nature trail, a running track, an ADA-compliant perimeter half-mile walking trail, a tennis/pickleball court, and additional parking are specified for future installation. Wetlands crossings are not recommended. A copy of the plan will be provided to the NTC.
- Voters approved \$200,000 initial funding at town meeting in 2016. Quotes for Phase 1 were a minimum of \$350,000; adjustments to the plan have reduced this amount to \$225,000. Grant eligibility usually requires some progress to have been made. Red Sox grants are not for mixed-use fields. NH Parks & Rec and UNH are other possible resources.
- Restrictions on the use of the property should be discussed with Chris Sterndale. The land must be used as a public resource. There may be a verbal agreement about access to the Bonser sand pit on the land-locked abutting property.
- A gravel road currently runs through the property to the sand pit, crossing the proposed running track, and is a component of the trail. The terms of the AoT allow the trail to be rerouted where necessary.
- NTC members can walk the property individually or in small groups, as scheduling allows, to familiarize themselves with the site. Marking of the trail should be on hold for now.

October work days at Marsh Woods and the William E. Kennard Forest

- Kennard Forest work day was scheduled for Sat, 10/13 and 9:00 a.m. JB and CA will work on creating GPS waypoints/lines for the boundaries. Others will work on marking and clearing the loop trail, installing water bars, and other trail improvements as needed. Any trees across the trail will be flagged for later chainsaw work, with passage for foot traffic only.
- Marsh Woods was scheduled for Sat, 10/20, at 9:00 a.m. JB and CA will work on boundary flagging. Others will review Merriam-Daggett to Tasker proposed connector and do additional clearing on this and sections of the Tasker woods road trails that have grown up to saplings. Trash will be consolidated at the south end of the landfill for pickup by recycle center staff. Bittersweet seedling pulling will be delayed until late fall (TBD).

Minutes for August 2 and September 9 were edited, reviewed, and unanimously approved.

Adjourned at 8:30pm

Next meeting: Thursday, November 1, 2018– 6:30 PM, Conf. Room #2.

Submitted by Celia Abrams, 10/5/18