

**Nottingham Conservation Commission (NCC)
Nottingham Trails Committee (NTC) Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 2, 2023**

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

SD opened the meeting at 6:33 pm.

Announcements: SD and SM will attend the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (<https://www.nhacc.org/>) on November 4 in Pembroke, NH.

Review and approve minutes of October 5, 2023: the October 5, 2023 minutes were discussed, updated, and approved. Motion to approve and second by MK and SM.

Project and action items: planning and updates for 2023: September wind storms and rains created numerous broken branches and fallen trees for the Kennard Forest and Marsh Woods Conservation Area trails. November clean-up is being planned and trails will be monitored for debris mitigation.

Blaisdell Memorial Library (BML) Community Coffee Hour discussion on October 25: At the BML's request, SD and TE participated in the Community Coffee Hour discussion. Topics discussed included the roles and activities of the Nottingham Conservation Commission, Nottingham's conserved lands, the town's public hiking trails, and hiking programs provided by the Parks and Recreation Department and the NTC.

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 at the Howard Swain Memorial Forest), six hikes in total: <https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/parks-recreation-department/pages/fall-foliage-hikingwalking-group>. NTC members will participate as needed and when available.

Planning for 2024 programs and projects: community outreach, hiking events, and in-the-field programs for 2024 were discussed. TE will contact the BML for interest in hosting presentation(s) and awareness program(s) as part of the University of New Hampshire's Cooperative Extension Speaking for Wildlife program: <https://extension.unh.edu/natural-resources/wildlife/speaking-wildlife>.

An animal tracking hike is being planned for late February or early March 2024, based upon snow coverage. SM will contact Kristen Lamb (who has a background in wildlife ecology and management) to participate in the hike. Locations include Marston Farm Recreation Area, Mulligan Forest, or Terninko Conservation Area.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM; moved and seconded by SM and MK.