

Nottingham Conservation Commission
Trails Committee meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 2, 2021 – 6:30pm, Conference Room 1
Submitted by Leanne Gast

Present – Celia Abrams (CA), Sam Demeritt (SD), Michael Koester (MK), and Leanne Gast (LG)

Welcome & Announcements –

The meeting opened at 6:38 p.m.

- Earth Fest is 9/11/2021 from 10am – 2pm. The Conservation Commission will have a booth/tent. MK can help in the morning and CA should be able to help in the afternoon. LG will make copies of maps to have at the booth.

Approve minutes of 8/5/21 – SD moved to approve the minutes. CA seconded, 2 ayes and 2 abstentions.

Project and Action Items Review –

- **Kiosk & trail signs - Marsh Woods, Kennard, Terninko:** CA ordered directional signs for Marsh Woods & Kennard and is waiting for them to come in.
- **Blazing –Marston** – CA met with Kortney Dorow about blazing the trails. She will assist Nottingham Parks & Rec staff with blazing and has offered remaining yellow poly blazes for their use, as approved by SD. Rec Dept will order additional poly blazes.
- **Kennard bridge and trail work:** Several people have volunteered to help with the bridge work (Amanda Cafasso and her husband, Alan Rubin, Ian and Melissa Berry).
- **Additional Benches** for Marsh Woods – Will discuss at next meeting.

Outstanding Tasks

We reviewed the tasks list.

- **Directional signs** have been ordered but have not come in yet.
- **Kiosk panel** at Marsh Woods must be designed, printed, and installed. Temporary map and text are installed.
- **Closure signs** on discontinued Kennard woods road sections. “Trail Closed” signs were ordered and came in, to put at either end of the closed trail on Kennard.
- **Vernal Pool sign at Kennard** - CA and Dallas Huggins went to Kennard to review signage. Questioned whether there should be signage for the vernal pool. CA will ask Mark West what his thoughts are.
- **Kennard bridge** –Talked about the possibility of an ADA bridge since the rest of the trail is conducive to ADA use. CA will look for specs for an ADA bridge. MK said that Janet Horvath may be a good contact person for information as well.
- **Terninko bridges** – John Terninko built one bridge on his trail and has one more to build.
- **Kennard parking** – CA will talk to Michael Kennard about possible signage for the parking area across from the entrance to trail.

- **Trail Finder posting** – Prepare for posting once the directional trail signs have been installed, which will minimize the likelihood of walkers getting lost.
- **Roadside trail signage** – “Hiking Trail” signs were ordered and came in to put at Marsh Woods and Kennard.
- **Conservation Commission budget** – There is money available until the end of the year. Need to consider ways to use the funds
 - Panel for Marsh Wood kiosk
 - Materials for bridge at Kennard
 - Materials for benches

Other –

- **Possible sale of CE property** – Discussed uses of conservation fund monies in general and the best use for the money, to purchase land, develop management plans, or both. It was decided that in the end it is the Conservation Commission’s decision.
- **Google Drive** – Discussed back up plan for Trails Committee information that is stored on Google Drive. Some possibilities include seeing if the town contracts with a company for data management and if the trails committee information can be included; purchasing an external hard drive to put the data on; or printing out copies of everything to keep in the Conservation Commission filing cabinet. Google is changing their storage rules and they may start charging for use of the Drive. MK will talk to Chris Sterndale to see what the town is doing for data backup.

Adjourned at 8:03 p.m. – CA moved, MK seconded, all 4 ayes.