

# Minutes Trails Subcommittee September 15, 18:30 - 20:00

## Approved 10/05/21

*Call to Order* at 18:35

Those present:

Lori Baldwin, member  
Thomas Dombrowski, member  
Eric Greenfield, member  
Soren Denlinger, member  
Rob Baldwin, member pending oath  
Megan Hartnett, member pending oath  
Derek Colquhoun, member pending oath  
Rich Maher, contributor

Lori Baldwin proposes motion to nominate Soren Denlinger as secretary, seconded by Tom Dombrowski, rescinded  
Soren Denlinger proposes motion to nominate Megan Hartnett as secretary, seconded by Lori Baldwin, approved by committee 4-0

Tom Dombrowski and Rob Baldwin propose motion to nominate Lori Baldwin as Chair, seconded by Soren Denlinger and Tom Dombrowski, approved by committee 4-0

Lori Baldwin promotes motion to nominate Soren Denlinger as Co-Chair, seconded by Tom Dombrowski, approved by committee 4-0

1. *Identify roles and associated responsibilities*
  - a. Chairman of the Committee: Lori Baldwin
  - b. Co-Chairman of the Committee: Soren Denlinger
  - c. Secretary: Megan Hartnett
2. *Draft our mission statement*
  - a. Model after the Mission of the Concord Trails Subcommittee: To develop (want to add new trails) maintain and promote (improves community wellbeing and starts conversation about larger conservation) mixed-use trails
    - i. Replace mixed-use with passive recreation? Or non-motorized?
  - b. Define mixed-use: snowmobile, hiking, biking capabilities
  - c. Potentially incorporate use of Natural Resource Inventory (NRI)
  - d. **The Mission of the GCC Trails Subcommittee is to maintain, develop, and promote the use of trails in the Town of Gilmanton to foster community wellbeing.**
3. *Review conservation properties with existing trails*
  - a. Review of Gilmanton Conservation Lands, March 2010 map by Nanci Mitchell
    - i. Soren assigned by the GCC to update map to reflect current conditions
4. *Identify and prioritize projects*
  - a. Lori proposes Cogswell Hill as a main priority
    - i. Potential to connect Cogswell network to the Thompson Town Forest, update trail conditions, open up existing trails
    - ii. Identify Gilmanton School's involvement currently and intended for future involvement
  - b. Tom proposes establishing the trail to connect Tom Howe Barn / Retting Pond and Joe Uner trail

- i. Anne Onion has partially cleared this path but there are tipped trees, poison ivy, and thistle
        - 1. **Action Item:** Reach out to Ann Onion to consult about this trail before the snow falls, assigned to **Tom**
    - c. Eric proposes Jones Farm Conservation Area be maintained
      - i. This will be a large project
    - d. Determining logistics and procedure for walking land
      - i. Ideally walked in the wet season, funds can be requested through GCC/grants for supplies, *Guide to Walking Trails* as a resource
      - ii. Town Forester will assist with contours, wet area avoidance, ideal paths with plenty of experience
        - 1. **Action Item:** Reach out to Forester to consult about the path, assigned to **Lori**
- Uarner trail will be first priority, then Cogswell Hill, Jones Farm Conservation Area with publicity for each project
- e. Creation of trail guide and individual trail system maps by Soren
    - i. Ability to profit from sale of guide and chance to include information from NRI listings of Town Forests and State Forests
  - f. Review of Gilmanton Conservation Lands report and ability to establish trails (ideal winter project)
  - g. Trails and Tales / Creation of self-guided tour : collaboration with Historical Society?
5. *Identify steps to assessing trail needs*
- a. Tom Dombrowski agrees to communicate with stakeholders and lead trail walking
  - b. Communication policy to avoid too many people, if there are enough members to form a quorum, the event must be announced unless classified as a workshop
    - i. Ann Onion availability prioritized over subcommittee / community availability
  - c. **Action Item:** create procedure for creating and assessing existing and developing trails, assigned to **Soren**
6. *Identify procedures for communicating with property owners and stakeholders*
- a. Limits of communication within subcommittee: Chair may blind copy members of the subcommittee, communication through minutes with GCC
  - b. Limits of communication for property owners: Notification to landowners from the GCC
    - i. Notify the GCC, GCC will notify property owners
      - 1. **Action Item:** Question to the GCC: are we authorized to communicate to property owners directly? Is 5 Rivers a stakeholder in conservation easements for Cogswell and other lands? Item assigned to **Lori**
7. *Determine agenda for next meeting*
- a. Review walking of the trails
  - b. Chair can develop agenda as the month goes on with information gathered
    - i. Members can add items to the agenda
    - ii. Agenda will be submitted to Bre and posted on website and at PO 2 days prior to meeting
  - c. Identification and review of projects and their priority
  - d. Gather contact information for all collaborating organizations (i.e. stakeholders)
8. *Set meeting date*
- a. GCC meets second Tuesday of each month (next = October 12)

- b. Would it be advantageous to meet before GCC? Or a week / two weeks prior in order to get on the agenda? Propose standing Trails Committee agenda item for GCC.
- c. Proposed meeting time: one week prior to GCC, first Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm (next = October 5)
  - i. Approved by committee, 4-0

*Adjourned* at 19:54