

Gilmanton Conservation Commission

Trails Subcommittee Agenda

11/2/2021 @ 18:30 Old Town Hall GIW

Approved Minutes

Call to Order 18:34

Present

Lori Baldwin, Chair

Soren Denlinger, Co-Chair

Megan Hartnett, Secretary

Fuzz Freese, GLT Liaison

Rob Baldwin

Thomas Dombrowski

Eric Greenfield

Rich Maher, Community Member

Sean Jordan, Community Member

Paul Osborne, Gilmanton Snowmobile Association

David Clairmont, Gilmanton Snowmobile Association

1. Approve meeting minutes 10/5/2021
 1. Lori motions to approve, approved 7-0
2. Action Items Updates
 1. Town Forester (Ron Klemarczyk) contact - Lori
 1. Ron K is scheduled to attend our December meeting - prepare questions
 - 1. Action Item: Inquire about rates for his service? → Lori**
 2. Do we also have access to a County Forester?
 3. Does he have volunteers to help with bridge building?
 2. Gilmanton Land Trust (GLT) contact - Lori
 1. Fuzz Freese is our GLT liaison and is present today
 3. Joe Urner Updates - Baldwins
 1. The trail is cleared and blazed
 2. We still need a map holder and bridges for stream crossing
 - 1. Action Item: Schedule final work day to install temporary bridges for stream crossings → Lori**
 - 2. Action Item: Acquire planks and wood for bridges → Thomie**
 4. Joe Urner Map - Soren

1. The map is drafted and accepting feedback (consistent labels, more road prominence, matching labels to the key)
2. **Action Item: Complete map for distribution by the end of the calendar year 2021 → Soren**
5. Public Notice - Megan and Lori
 1. Created a list of 8-10 places to post pictures, maps, general information
3. Trail planning
 1. Joe Urner: final tasks
 1. Final workday to install bridges
 2. Address parking situation: currently parking is on the grass and this will continue to be mowed
 1. Marking the parking lot with logs for indication
 2. Eventually there will be a kiosk and sign pointing folks to the trail
 3. **Action Item: Request guidance from GCC regarding parking → Lori**
 2. Cogswell: next steps
 1. Wet spots, blazing, and signage need to be addressed
 2. Scoping interesting features to highlight in future trail building
4. Other business
 1. Conservation Lands - Soren
 1. Created a draft of all Town Conservation Lands (town owned and not) within a 1 mile radius of the town, needs feedback on content
5. Meeting with Gilmanton Snowmobile Association
 1. When are the snowmobile trails closed?
 1. Gates are shut by the end of the season (April) and the trails are open to walking and hiking
 2. Are there many gates?
 1. GSA has moved towards chains and landowners want them closed in the off-season
 3. Are snowmobile trails on private property open to summer hiking access?
 1. Through current use laws, hikers are protected as long as the trails are open to recreational use
 2. If the land isn't posted, all lands are open to walking
 1. Work with the owners for trail building and publication
 4. Can bridges or boardwalks be built to cross wet spots at Cogswell?
 1. Ideally the hiking trail would cross at a different spot than the snowmobile trail due to the groomer and emergency forestry truck
 5. Questions about Cogswell property
 1. Would color-coded trail signs and blazes interfere with snowmobilers?
 1. No this is not bothersome

2. Denoting the trails as multi-use is necessary to make hikers aware of potential snowmobiles and prevent incident
2. Is the Skantze tract part of the GSA system?
 1. No, this may have been logging access at one point
3. What are the white blazes on parts of the trail?
 1. Reflectors for night snowmobiling and for snowstorm visibility, they can be removed
4. Who can be contacted about the blazing plan?
 1. GSA administrator Brian Lamarsh makes the maps
5. Does GSA have volunteers?
 1. Yes, events are posted to Facebook or word of mouth
 1. Building bridges on the Bingham trail and Meetinghouse trail are upcoming events
 2. Interested people can be shared between GSA and trails committee
6. Are GSA trails friendly to cross-country skiers?
 1. Yes, trails are open to nordic skiing, walking, hiking, and are multi-use recreational trails
7. Can we denote cross-country skiing and snowmobile trails in the Gilmanton Trail Guide?
 1. Yes, permission is needed from landowners to publish their property
6. December Meeting Items
 1. Create master plans for work on Cogswell and Jones Farm properties
 2. Create procedure for reimbursement of the subcommittee
 1. Identify source of funding for materials needed for trail building and maintenance

Adjourned 19:58