

Gilmanton Conservation Commission

Trails Subcommittee

Approved Minutes

12/06/2022 @6:30pm Old Town Hall GIW

Attendees: Tommie, Rich, Chris, Frank, Lori

1. Approve meeting minutes 11/01/22
 - Move to approve from Thomie, Lori seconds, all approve
2. Trail Updates:
 - **Cogswell Summit**
 - Cogswell main/center summit clearing
 - Opening a portion of the summit, triggered desire to open additional view
 - Ron cuts very deliberately, safely, methodically, efficiently
 - Trees neatly laid down
 - Ron recommended throwing brush over the cliff/into ravine
 - Contact fire ranger (boy scout camp) to alert them that there is a large amount of brush in one spot. Not to move it, but to make fire department aware:
 - **Action:** follow up with Ron regarding brush debris
 - **Action:** Remaining brush work
 - Only a problem for 3-4 years
 - Remaining work; 2 people, 1-2 hours
 - And 1-2 hours of clean up at summit (around old picnic table)
 - **Action:** Broken tree Frank reported (and that he shared pics from – closer to upper slope) should be cleaned up
 - **Action:** Spring - need to identify a tree climber to cut suckers off (2) trees that could obstruct view as the leaves come in
 - people were split 50/50 on keeping these 2 trees versus taking them down
 - **Action:** Rich, Tree down near Lou Lane or snack shack to remove
 - Bench location identified, facing SE toward Prospect Mt. Nice, secluded area
 - Rich would like to donate the bench
 - Composite 'wood', Big Jim's has good options
 - Ron's bill for the work came in under budget
 - Gary & Mahr family funded the work
 - Email came to GCC asking if subcommittees instead of buying on their own, there could be entities that the town would buy from on behalf of the subcommittees
 - **Action:** Engage Gary about dedication (Tom Howe??)
 - **Jones farm trail update**
 - Frank reports that some remnants of camping / trash / sleeping bags

- May need to have a vote on if we continue with Cogswell or move on to Jones Farm or...?
3. Report on Action items
- GCC Trails Subcommittee Promotion

- GCC Website Update
- Newspaper article on HOLD
- QR Code created, laminated
- Stockpiling photos
 - Lori to set up google drive address for group to upload photos
- Rob to work on blurb
- Ron O'Connor stated we could upload all the photos we want to GCC FB page
- Gilmanton Community page
- Crystal Lake page
- Library Web Site
- Frank checking on uploading videos
- Lori will share draft for feedback before posting

4. New business:

- **January pause?**
 - Lori makes a motion to pause January, Tommie seconds, all in favor
 - Feb/March
 - **Chainsaw safety training**
 - Chainsaw certificates (Rich) – NH Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA)
 - Pat Hackley raised concerns about safety. Would like us to work with Ron or Jake to engage in some certifications
 - Ron or Jake could both provide training
 - Frank took training about 20 years ago
 - i. 2 Phases
 - 1. Starting chainsaw properly, basic safety
 - 2. Felling fundamentals
 - **Action:** Frank will investigate
 - **Action:** Tommie to engage Jake about certification
- Trail Census
 - Rich suggested we put together both a **physical and a digital booklet of trails**
 - i. Concord trails booklet great example
 - Stockpile names of trails, Google Drive
 - Database of trails to use for road-mapping / goal setting
 - Pancake / Ladd's ledge
 - Pine Hill
 - Cobb Road
 - Thompson

- etc
 - Use GCC report to drive creation of trails database
- **Rich: Public input**
 - Can landowners (who may not be full time residents) be on town Subcommittees?
 - Can non-residents or part-time residents participate in subcommittees?
 - Interest in town to take advantage of energy of non-full-time residents to participate.
 - What is the policy for
 - **Action:** Lori to engage Mark Warren about the general policy of subcommittees