

Carlisle Trails Committee Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2021
Alan Ankers, Secretary

Attendance: Alan Ankers, Chris Chiapella, Roy Herold, Charlene Hinton, Warren Spence, Steve Tobin

Guests: Sylvia Willard, Bert Willard, Bob Goldsmith, Peter Burn

Meeting was held via video conference.

Documents Presented:

None

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes from the May 7 meeting were approved as written.

Bills:

A motion was passed to pay the invoice for \$212.50 from the Carlisle Mosquito, for the legal notice associated with the Greenough wetland filing, to be taken from the Trails Gift Account.

Russell St. trails:

Steve suggested that an extra sign would be useful where the trail leaves the gravel road and enters the woods.

Greenough - Eagle Scout Project:

Steve reported that ConsCom had approved the project by issuing a Negative Determination of Applicability at their May 27 meeting.

Steve cut a path through the knotweed and plans to cut it back again in July and August.

Greenough Narrow Trail:

Steve reported that he, Marc, Warren and Roy had slightly shifted the small bridge, which seemed to improve the flow of the trail.

Woodward Village:

The trail clearing work planned for May 30 was postponed by rain.

Trails Day:

Steve noted that the event was in progress and would end on Sunday.

Benches:

Steve reported that the Memorial bench was installed at Towle on May 16 by Warren, Steve, Roy and Alan, with William Shaw's father Nick and brother Kai present. Another bench was installed

on the same day below Castle Rock on the Conant Land.
Steve and Warren installed another on the Sachs Greenway on May 27.
There is one more bench ready for installation, and the Catbriar trail near marker D6 was chosen as its location.

New Business:

Trekker Awards:

Trekker Award #59 was presented to Peter Burn, who completed the trails between June 2020 and January 2021, and has helped on previous work sessions. He nominated Stone Row with its interesting stone structures as his favorite trail, and mentioned his surprise at how many new trails he discovered after living in town for thirty years.

Election of Officers:

The following slate of officers was approved:

Chair – Alan Ankers

Vice-chair, Secretary – Steve Tobin

Treasurer – Marc Lamere

Clerk – Warren Spence

Marc and Warren, whose terms were expiring, were reappointed.

Old Home Day:

Steve reported that a scaled-down version of Old Home Day was planned for the weekend of June 26. The committee agreed to host the usual Double Sundae Sunday Saunter, starting at 11 a.m. on Sunday, June 27. It is unclear whether there will be a booth. Steve will contact the Old Home Day Committee.

Valentine Trail Easement:

Steve reported that Steve Hinton and CCF had made progress on a new trail easement on the Acton portion of the Valentine property, linking to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. The original easement joins the Rail Trail at a twenty-foot high bank. The new easement, agreed to by the Valentine family and the purchaser of the lot, would allow a grade-level junction with the Rail Trail, and need one or two boardwalks. CCF would like the easement to be included in the Planning Board's upcoming review of the common driveway, and requested formal support from the Trails Committee.

A motion was approved for Steve to inform the Planning Board that the Trails Committee considers the new easement to be beneficial.

Foss Farm South Field:

Steve reported that the farmer has plowed the field out to the tree line, effectively eliminating the trail around the field. Sylvia Willard said she has spoken to Mark Duffy, who had agreed to compact the soil around the field edge to restore trail access.

Mountain Bike group:

Steve reported that he, Chris and Alan had met with Jack Huntress, who organizes the Carlisle

MTB50 bike ride each fall. As the size of the group has grown over the years, some complaints have been received about its effects on other trail users. Jack was receptive of suggestions on managing the event, mostly related to making the general public aware of what was going on. To this end, he will apply for a formal permit from ConsCom, and post signs at trailheads to notify users of the event.

Recent Trail Work:

Steve mowed trails at Spencer Brook, Bisbee, Fox Hill, Piggery Road and the Red-tail trail with the DR trimmer.

Steve, Warren and Marc took down large leaning trees at Greenough.

Steve removed fallen trees at Towle, Town Forest, Piggery Rd, and Estabrook.

Roy cleared trees at the Town Forest, River trail, and Catbriar trail.

Bob Goldsmith cleared a tree at Conant.

Henry cleared two trees on the Davis Corridor.

Future Activity Planning:

A volunteer work day will be scheduled, with details to be worked out later. Work to be done includes cutting a new trail over the hill on the Woodward land, and relocating some rocks at the stone wall crossings in the woods at the Benfield Conservation Land.

Schedule Next Meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for July 2, 2021 at 7:30 pm, again to be held by video conference.