

Carlisle Trails Committee Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: February 3, 2023
Alan Ankers, Secretary

Members Present: Alan Ankers, Roy Herold, Charlene Hinton, Marc Lamere, Warren Spence, Steve Tobin

Members Absent: Chris Chiapella

Guests:

Bert and Sylvia Willard, 34 Bellows Hill Rd.

Bob Goldsmith, 771 Lowell Rd.

Brian Waterson, 80 Aberdeen Drive

Meeting was held via video conference.

The meeting was opened by Chair Steve Tobin at 7:32 PM.

Documents Presented:

None

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes from the January 6 meeting were approved as written.

Bills:

None.

2023 Goals:

Tophet East Trail:

Steve reported that the easement at Great Brook Path (a public road) allows bicycles, and this may be an option to divert State Park bike traffic away from the contentious easement at Aberdeen Drive. The State Park could install signage to encourage this.

Brian Waterson, the immediate abutter to the easement, said he had spoken with other neighbors about their shared easement along the private road (Aberdeen Drive), and that modifying that easement does not seem to be an option at this point.

Steve noted that we should put up a sign at the end of Ice Pond Road (start of Aberdeen Drive); the original easement requires that of the grantee (the Town).

Malcolm Meadows Wet Areas:

Steve, Warren and Marc visited the site (near marker D13) on January 8 and came up with a provisional plan for a boardwalk about 160 feet in length. There is a slope with a grade difference of about six feet at one end, which will present a challenge. Further consideration is required.

Online Mapping:

Related to enhanced online mapping linked to GPS systems, Marc had proposed a plan for adding

QR codes at trail markers. Roy showed examples of small printed strips that could be fastened to marker posts. A few alternatives were discussed, and the general consensus was for a set of three QR codes to be included at each trail marker:

- The trail map for that parcel
- A link to Open Street Maps, centered at that specific location
- A link to the Trails Committee website

In addition, a printed copy of the trail map (from the trail book) could be added at major trailheads; this would need sturdy laminating to avoid deterioration. It was agreed to do a trial installation in the Town Forest.

Other Old Business:

Trail Map Books:

Marc reported that he had handed off information and a supply of books to Chris.

Letter of Support:

Steve reported that he had sent the letter of support for rebuilding the dam at the Cranberry Bog. It was presented at the CPC meeting.

Moonlight Walk

The moonlight walk on January 7 was considered a success. A beautiful evening brought about 40 attendees.

Banta-Davis Dog Park

Steve reported that the Planning Board was scheduled to review this in a public hearing on February 15.

Earth Day Event

Steve reported that Christina Christodouloupoulos of the Environmental Sustainability Committee had assigned a booth to the Trails Committee in the “Nature and Wellness” section and was looking for more information about what would be presented. Steve will contact Chris, who had previously expressed interest, to see if he is willing to take the lead in this effort.

New Business:

Tiger Scout Project:

Steve reported that he had been contacted by Danielle Mahan who was looking to arrange a 1-2 hour trail cleanup project in the spring for her group of (1st grade) Tiger Scouts. Given the age group, it seemed that the work would be quite limited, but he will offer encouragement.

Annual Town Report:

Steve reported that the Annual Report to the Town was due on March 10. As always, he will prepare it and distribute it for review.

Twin Peaks Bridge:

Steve noted that the double log bridge was failing and should be replaced with a new boardwalk.

He had contacted the new landowner of the (very closely) abutting property, Tully Foote, who had no issues with this.

Future Activity Planning:

No activities were planned for February.

Recent Trail Work:

Steve cleared trees from the Piggery and River trail, West Tophet, and Elliott Preserve.

Marc cleared a tree from the Rockstrom trail.

Bob Goldsmith cleared trees at Greenough, Foss Farm, Twin Peaks and Acorn trail.

Schedule Next Meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for March 3, 2023 at 7:30 pm, to be held by video conference.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.