

Minutes of the Forest and Trails Committee  
Town of Conway, Massachusetts  
June 22, 2022  
6:30 pm Town Hall

Present:

Members: Marilyn Webster, Deb Donaldson, Priscilla Lynch, Suzanne Artemieff  
Associate Members: Cynthia Lawton-Singer, Courtney Gilligan

Called to order, 6:35 pm by Deb Donaldson.

Minutes of meetings of May 25, with minor corrections and addition, and June 2 unanimously approved.

Marilyn presented follow-up on education walk with Jaime Jackman and her students:

- Given seeming lack of progress on identification of points/species of interest, committee may need to take on this task: all present expressed interest in participating
- Marilyn to contact Alison Wright-Hunter regarding times she can accompany committee to identify species/points of interest
- Marilyn to add to list of reference books compiled by Deb and to provide to grammar school so librarian can order
- Deb contacted Natural Heritage, which will require a MA Endangered Species Checklist if any trails are to be extended on property under their auspices
- Deb proposed construction of relatively small simple crossing over stream near ice pond and will take measurements so that a proposal can be presented to Select Board and Conservation Commission (with fee of \$70 to cover costs of publicizing hearing)

Discussion of map of Fournier and surrounding parcels prepared by AmeriCorps volunteer Audrey included the following:

- desire for more detail on Fournier property, including ice pond, vernal pool, and boundary of wildlife sanctuary
- change of color of trails on restricted private property rather than change of color of entire plot
- Deb will contact Audrey to request changes and obtain updated files before Audrey leaves
- Courtney will see if she can use State software in her free time to make further changes to map
- Main short-term focus will be on map of Fournier trails, which will include sign numbers without codes (only the sign at the trail head will contain a

code), with trails on surrounding land being a longer-term effort, which will require a meeting with interested abutters

- Suzanne will contact Craig Warner to ask about inclusion of snowmobile trail numbers on map

Discussion of draft letter to Nolumbeka Project included the following:

- need for committee to clarify initial areas of assistance, e.g., historical and current perspectives on/relationship with the land of Indigenous people
- questions about need for, objectives of and format of land acknowledgment
- agreement for all committee members to undertake self-education over the next month prior to contacting Nolumbeka, sharing interesting sources with other committee members

Update on walk with Mary Wigmore, Alison Wright-Hunter, and Andrew Randazzo presented.

Priscilla requested extending invitation of speaker(s) to present view of Pro-forestation as alternative to Forest Management, suggesting Bill Moomaw and Bill Stubblefield as possible speakers.

Discussion of Climate-Smart Plan was tabled due to absence of Mary Wigmore.

Next Meeting Dates:

July 27, 6:30 pm

August 17, 6:30 pm

September 28, 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned ~8:00 pm.