

Hanover Conservation Commission Trails Committee Minutes, May 13, 2014

Present: Ron Bailey, Tom Linell, Doug McIlroy, Bill Mlacak, Peter Shumway, John Taylor

Short items

Taylor report. For Earth Day 14 Hanover High students worked in the Tanzi tract, benching, clearing, cutting trees, and making waterbars. Taylor said the group was very well focused and productive. They noted some ground still frozen (April 25).

The UVMBA has built the bridge on the Goodwin Forest bike trail, with participation from Hypertherm and Tuck School.

Mink Brook Trail. Mlacak surveyed the trail and found it generally clear, except for some downed wood and obscuring growth at the lower entrance. There is no signage at the forks. Two crossings of Mink Brook, not always easy, might be avoided by rerouting the trail completely to the east of the brook. Linell said there is a woods road on the east. McIlroy said that if a route is found, owners' approval will be needed.

Work schedule

Rinkertract. McIlroy and Mlacak will install steps at the Route 10 entrance, May 18.

Various updates to the trail-jobs spreadsheet were made.

Other business

Dresden area. Mlacak said a neighborhood "planning party" is scheduled for June 4. A trails concern to air there is connectivity through Rivercrest and Kendal, which now includes the former Chieftan Motel site. In the long run, this could be part of a river route joining the Ledyard Canoe Club to Storrs Pond and the Rinker tract. Permission to do restoration work on the existing trail through Occom Ridge properties is still elusive.

Nathan's Garden. This park is being donated to the town under easement to the Hanover Conservancy. Use of this quiet path as a connecting route between Maple Street/River Trail and West Wheelock/waterfront/Canoe Club is not currently allowed. It is hoped that the possibility will not be foreclosed by deed.

Moose Mountain. Linell said the last property on the east side of Ruddsboro Road before Lebanon (plus the adjacent Lebanon property) are on the market. The lot extends to the ridge and may be traversed by the Ridge Trail.