

Hanover Conservation Commission Trails Committee
Site Visit

Minutes – April 20, 2016 – Approved 5/10/16

Present: Hugh Mellert, Bill Mlačak, Doug McIlroy, Roger Gilmore, Vicki Smith
The meeting opened at 3:05 pm at the Ferguson Field.

Vicki described the acquisition history of the Steele property which included generous donations from Kendal residents. She noted that grades as gentle as they are suggest a new trail across the top of Ferguson Field to the “overlook” at the northern end of the Steele property. This trail could be designed with the less aggressive hiker in mind and in the future be made truly accessible to a person with a walker or wheelchair. Placing a bench at the overlook would provide a destination and make the trail more desirable as an out and back. The trail has historically connected with the dam access road and the new trail should as well.

The Committee walked a possible alignment parallel to Route 10 and followed the former trail on the knoll to the overlook. They descended to the dam access road, then scouted a possible alternate route back to the top of the knoll and walked back to the point of beginning.

The proposed route needs to be flagged. While there is a lot of chainsaw work to be done to clear off the blow downs, Doug was confident that a team of five with two chainsaws could clear the way to the overlook in a morning. The final route across the top of Ferguson Field needs to be approved by the Hanover Improvement Society.

Bill will take this project to the Trails Committee for consideration in 2016.

The site visit was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Smith