

Carlisle Trails Committee Meeting Minutes
March 30, 2018
Alan Ankers, Secretary

Attendance: Alan Ankers, Louise Hara, Roy Herold, Marc Lamere, Warren Spence, Steve Tobin
Guests: Tao Tang, Fei Huang, Tony Pu, Robert Nichol, Jamie Nichol, Larry Babine, Christina Christodouloupoulos, Tom Chappie, Christina Lear, Ken Fong, Mahreen Hoda, Lee Tatistcheff, Jonathan DeKock, Daniel Kusik, Matthw Prendeville, Andrew Bramley, Bianca Jiang, Kimberley Boschi, James Bramley, John Bakewell, Lawrence Stout, Tracey Stout.

Documents Presented:

None.

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes for the March 2, 2018 meeting were approved as amended.

Mannis Land / Oak Knoll:

A large contingent of Oak Knoll / Hemlock Hill residents attended to voice their opposition to the proposed trail.

Marc began by outlining the background of the new trail proposal and how trail projects are typically planned, and discussed a rough timeline that is usually followed so that potential trail locations are inspected in various seasons to be sure a site is viable for a trail. He reported that on March 4, a group consisting of Marc, Steve, Warren along with Jim Gettys and Jonathan DeKock, visited the Mannis Land to explore the proposed trail route and mark it with flags. At the end of the walk, they were approached by some neighbors who voiced objections. Marc explained that since the on-location meeting wasn't a noticed Trails Committee Meeting the committee could not discuss the situation with the neighbors at that time and it was helpful that they attended tonight's meeting to voice their opinion.

Several neighbors spoke at the meeting, noting that they were strongly opposed to the trail because of privacy concerns from public access close to their houses, and the negative effects increased traffic would have on their close-knit neighborhood. Some questioned the reasoning in building a trail that "nobody wants."

The question was raised about what would be the procedure for moving forward and how would the decision process work.

Marc suggested that the exploration process, as previously discussed, continue for one year from the start of the process (December 2017), during which time the Committee would continue to walk the land in different seasons under various different conditions; continue to receive input; then decide in December what to do. Since the land is controlled by ConsCom and their Land Stewardship Committee, they would ultimately determine whether this was an appropriate use of the land.

Steve wondered whether we should shelve the project at this point, but the rest of the Committee felt that it was best to continue as suggested.

It was agreed that a liaison group consisting of Marc Lamere, Tracy Stout, Jonathan DeKock and Jim Gettys would maintain contact in the meantime, but that the subject would not be formally

revisited until the June meeting.

Rodgers Road Trail:

Marc reported that CRAC had not received a response from Mr. Cunningham regarding the new Trail Easement document.

Robert Nichol, who intends to construct one of the boardwalks as his Eagle Scout project, reported that he is working out the details of his submission with his scout master. The Committee reiterated that advance planning is very important to keep the project on schedule. Alan agreed to send information on boardwalk construction to Robert, and to meet him and his father (Jamie) at Spencer Brook on April 21 to look at a previous scout project boardwalk.

Trail Mowing:

Marc reported that Tim Goddard told him that volunteers are considered employees and covered by the Town's liability insurance while doing the work, except for intentional damage or injury.

New Business:

Trail Clearing:

Recent storms have resulted in a lot of trees down on trails, and a major clean-up effort will be required. John Bakewell attended the meeting to offer his help if necessary, including heavier duty equipment than that typically available to the Committee.

Steve reported that he has set up a sheet on the "Trees Down" spreadsheet to record which trails have been scouted and cleared, and asked the Committee members to keep it up to date.

The mountain bike group also volunteered to help. Steve will assign them a number of trails to clear, and give them access to the spreadsheet to record the work completed.

A work day was scheduled for Sunday April 15, for volunteers to help, meeting at Town Hall at 9:00 A.M. Alan will place a notice in the Mosquito and send reminders to the email list.

Future Activities:

It was decided to hold the Earth Day Walk, planned for April 22, at the Greenough Land.

Schedule Next Meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for May 4.