Carlisle Trails Committee Meeting Minutes October 6, 2017 Alan Ankers, Secretary

Attendance: Alan Ankers, Henry Cox, Louise Hara, Roy Herold, Marc Lamere, Steve Tobin Guests: Sylvia Willard, Bert Willard, Robert Nichol, Jamie Nichol, Jonathan DeKock, Wayne Davis, David Freedman, Carren Panico (Carlisle Mosquito)

Documents Presented:

Map of Rodgers Road neighborhood.

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes for the September 1, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

767 Bedford Road / Woodward-Doutriaux Land:

David Freedman presented a detailed update on the proposal for the Town to purchase the two lots using CPA funds, and a new Residential Open Space Community (ROSC) bylaw to enable development of the adjacent property, owned by other members of the Woodward family, which would result in the preservation of a large area of open space, including access to a network of existing private trails. The proposed development would include dedicated trail parking. The purchase of the two lots and the new ROSC bylaw will be the subject of a Special Town Meeting on October 18. Mr. Freedman asked the committee to endorse the two articles at Town Meeting and to recruit supporters. The committee voted unanimously to endorse the articles.

Trail Book Update:

Louise reported that work on the new book was progressing.

Marc reported that he had sold fifteen books to Fern's, and another five to Pedal Power, both of whom had requested more books. We are now almost out of books.

Trail Intersection Signs:

Steve reported that the 32 new signs had been sealed and mounted, at Greenough and Benfield. Six more posts have been installed: three at Carlisle Pines on September 17 and three at Benfield on October 1.

Rodgers Road Trail:

Steve and Alan attended a neighborhood meeting hosted by Christine Stevens on September 30. The neighbors were supportive of improving the trail, and there is apparent demand. Dudley Cunningham, who owns the land on which the trail easement is located, was amenable to allowing the trail to be relocated on his land. The Rogoffs, over whose land a "bootleg" trail has been made, were not present. Alan will attempt to contact them.

Wayne Davis, of CRAC, noted that the current trail is wet and rocky and the ten-foot wide Rodgers Road Trail Easement and Conservation Restriction is no longer a good location for it. He

also noted Mr. Cunningham's willingness to allow the trail to be relocated, and recommended that, rather than modify the existing easement, the best way to do this would be to create an additional new Trail Easement to extend the area covered, and have Town Counsel prepare a document to this effect. With encouragement from the committee, he agreed to draft a Request for Town Counsel Services to do this.

Robert Nichol, who lives nearby, announced that he is interested in working on the trail improvements for his Eagle Scout project. The committee welcomed this, while noting that the entire project would probably be a little too optimistic and one of the boardwalks would be a more reasonable goal. He will start the process with the Scout Council, and Alan agreed to be the committee's point of contact for him.

Benches:

Roy presented a cost estimate of \$600 for the construction of twelve benches. The committee voted to approve the expenditure of up to \$700 to purchase these materials.

Libby Herland's Retirement:

Steve and Louise attended Libby Herland's retirement party on September 24.

Deer Committee:

Steve reported that the Deer Committee had identified five parcels of Town land (Conant, Greenough, Benfield, Town Forest, Davis Corridor) as potentially suitable for hunting, and was now working to determine a suitable number of hunters that could be supported by each.

Historical Markers:

Marc reported that Richie Chung had received approval from the Scout Council and Historical Commission for his project to repair and/or replace some of the Historical Site markers in town. He was considering using 4x4 posts instead of 6x6, for ease of installation and engraving.

81 Russell Street:

Marc reported that he had heard from Stamsky & McNary, but they were not yet at a point where they were ready to work out the necessary site adjustments to the trail.

New Benfield Trail:

Charlie Hutchinson completed the cutting of the trail as part of his Eagle Scout project, and also installed new posts for signs. He will install the metal trail markers soon. During the course of setting out the trail, flags marking the trail location seemed to disappear very frequently, the most extreme case being during the time the trail was being cut, when approximately 100 flags vanished in the course of an hour or two. The cause is unknown: initially deer were suspected of being responsible, but the only feasible explanation now seems to be that somebody was removing them.

Material Storage:

Both Steve and Marc had spoken to Tom Eagle of USF&W and he has no problem with the committee putting a storage container on the O'Rourke land when the existing barn is demolished, but there is currently no timeline for the demolition.

Marc noted that he had updated the inventory of material stored at the barn and circulated it by email on September 6.

New Business:

Mannis Land:

Jonathan DeKock, of Oak Knoll Road, expressed interest in constructing a trail from his land to the Mannis Land, crossing the land of several neighbors, and questioned what would be the process to explore such a possibility. The committee suggested first contacting the relevant neighbors to gauge their interest in allowing access, bearing in mind that sometimes people are prepared to allow access to neighbors without granting formal access rights to the general public. If appropriate permissions can be obtained, the committee would be willing to help with further planning.

Donation:

Steve reported that he had received a donation of \$476 from the mountain bike group after their annual ride covering all of the Carlisle public lands.

Trail Work Since Last Meeting:

Steve, Marc, Warren and Roy carried out repair work on the Tobin Bridge on October 3, replacing two joists and several deck boards.

Steve chainsawed six trees and ran the DR trimmer over the Holmes-Avery trail on September 22. Steve did some clearing and marking on the Rodgers Rd trail on October 1, to help neighbors locate the trail.

Marc removed a downed tree from the Tupelo trail.

Future Activities:

A work session was scheduled for Sunday October 22, meeting at Town Hall. Steve asked everybody to send him suggestions for work needed to be done.

Schedule Next Meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for November 3.

