

Loudon Trails Subcommittee
Monday, September 25, 2023 – 4 PM
Charlie's Barn, 29 South Village Road, Loudon, NH 03307

Meeting Minutes

Attendees	
Sandy Blanchard	Deb Eastman-Proulx
Martha Butterfield	Lynda Caine
John Mesick	Stephen Smith
Laura Vincent	Kevin Healey

Central NH Regional Planning Commission Staff: Vincent Pagano

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- Meeting convened at 4:00 PM

2. Review 8/28/23 Meeting Minutes

- DRAFT minutes had been emailed to members present
- There were no additions/corrections to the proposed Minutes
- Minutes were voted on and accepted

3. N'Dakinna

- Opening day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11
 - Selectmen were notified and the date was announced at their last meeting
 - Article was submitted to the Loudon Ledger for October edition
 - No grand opening, just open officially to the public
- Kiosk installation/work day is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27 at 8:30 AM
 - Overview of the number of people, tools and equipment needed
- Some blazes to be redone when time allows
- Backboards at Trails junctions are in place
 - Vincent brought You Are Here Trail maps – *Deb* to laminate
- Some of the Signage to be installed on Wednesday, October 4
 - Trail map – kiosk - *Deb*
 - Stop sign and Look Both Ways sign – parking lot exit on a tree - *John*
 - Trail Information showing Trail and Parking direction – at driveway - *John*
 - Trail sign: To Parking Lot – on trail - *John*
 - No Motorized Vehicles – kiosk - *John*
 - Hunting Permitted – kiosk - *Deb*
 - Please Clean up After Your Pet – kiosk - *Deb*
 - Private Property signs – to be posted on the west side of the trail - *John*
 - Parking Area Not Maintained in Winter Months – at driveway - *John*
 - N'Dakinna Trail street sign – at driveway on a tree- *John*
 - Martha's N'Dakinna Trail write up – kiosk - *Deb*
- Lynda has the 2nd Nex Trex bench
 - Donor plaque needs to be attached
 - Ed from the Lions may come for a photo op when the bench is installed
 - Sandy has cable to secure the bench once in place
- Once the trail is officially open, we will no longer be checking in with neighbors, police or Selectmen prior to working on the trail

4. Kirby Tract

- Bridge bases have been built
- Bridge work has started; needs to be finished
 - Thanks to all who have been involved with this endeavor. Special thanks to John who has done an amazing job designing, cutting, organizing and managing the project.
- Martha and John took measurements for the wooden ramp to be built on each side of the bridge; each ramp will be 6 feet long
- John will purchase materials to finish the bridge and will start cutting them
- Sandy has 12 backboards; we will need one at each junction, more backboards will probably be needed. Discussion to have John purchase the wood at the same time he buys the other materials.
- Dave and Martha did some clearing and took care of a downed tree
- Dave Ives has a picnic table he would like to donate and put out on the Kirby property; members liked this idea

5. Bachelder

- Harry MacLauchlan generously donated and added gravel to the trailhead parking area off Young's Hill Road, making the driveway more smooth
- The Kenney Road connector trail is not showing up on Loudon's website. Vincent will be meeting with the Loudon webmaster and will address this.
- Vincent will forward the newly designated Trail Street Numbers (for all Loudon Trails) to Google Maps
 - These numbers are part of the enhanced 911 town emergency system. All trail heads will be identified by their own street number. This system will make it easier for rescue personnel and anyone searching for Trails in Loudon to be able to locate them quicker.
- Sandy and Steve cleaned up some blow downs before the hurricane passed thru
- Two days later, after the hurricane passed thru, Bob Lyon cleared a lot more trees from the whole trail that had fallen
- Sandy and Steve used cable to secure the Nex Trex bench to a tree

6. Epp's Mill

- Steve weed whacked the area around the bridge
- Steps need to be built

7. Lovejoy

- One of the new hemlock boards has been set out by the bridge; it needs to be nailed in place – *Sandy* has spikes
- Remaining hemlock boards are being stored at Sandy's
- The new donated bench is located next to the kiosk
- Martha reported she and Dave have been cleaning up some small debris from the trail; no large issues to report
- Future consideration: make bog bridges 3 planks wide instead of 2; easier for people walking dogs

8. Nex Trex

- Stretchy plastic continues to be collected by members and many others
 - We're thankful this program has created a community awareness of repurposing all this plastic and keeping it out of landfills
- 2nd bench will be installed at N'Dakinna
- Lynda said we are getting close to a collection of 500 lbs., making us eligible for the next bench submission. This will take place after November 1.

9. Rec Trail

- 911 Emergency Street location is the road number into Charlie's Barn

10. Volunteer Hours (Martha)

- Bachelder Trails – 445
- Epps Mills Trails – 224
- Kirby Tract – 509
- Lovejoy Trails – 619
- Recreation Trail – 31
- N'Dakinna – 476

11. Regular Trail Visit Checklist

- Reporting for 2023 Q3 (Sep-Nov) updated

12. Financial Record Keeping

- No updates

13. Other Business – N/A

14. Next Meeting Date: October 23, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM