

Present: Rick Gardner, Cary LeBlanc, Deb Cary, Kelton Burbank, Karen Rossow

Alternate: Susan Downing

Absent:

Meeting began at 7:05 pm on Goto Meeting.

1. Minutes of September 8 2020 meeting were approved.
2. Trail Vision and Action Plan:
 - a. We had a lengthy discussion on goals and objectives. See my updated slide based on discussions. Please comment!

Princeton Trails – Vision and Action Plan

Vision, Objectives, and Scope

Vision:
Provide Princeton Residents with a multi-use trail network that interconnects neighborhoods and points of interest.

Objectives:

1. Identify trail segments that can be developed or improved
2. Assign priorities to trail projects
3. Set standards for trail development, signage, etc.
4. Assign responsibilities for the go-forward short- and long-term action plan
5. Document the vision and action plan and share with the town

Scope:

1. Trails within Princeton and connections to outside towns
2. Public and Private Land (where permitted)
3. For non-motorized use (bikes, hiking, skiing, horses, hunting, etc.)
4. Include considerations for sidewalks and ‘Road Walking’ as a tool to connect trail segments

- b. Schedule: The schedule that Rick presented looks like a reasonable approach, but we agreed that we do not need to wait for the results of the survey to begin work on trail segment planning. See revised schedule chart below. Rick will plan to begin discussion of trails and connection at next meeting (Oct 28).

Task	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Develop Survey								
Conduct Survey								
Signage Standard								
Communication/Pub Plan								
Landowner Strategy								
Tabulate / Analyze Survey								
Develop Trail Vision								
Trail Summit								
Develop Report Draft								
Public Hearing								
Final Report								

- c. Survey: Survey is getting complicated because of the addition of consideration for road walking, as a separate topic from off-road trails. We agreed to focus on off-road trails. Susan will work to put together initial comments into a next draft.
- d. Signage: The sub-committee has been communicating over the CHCA Kiosk design. We believe that the CHCA sign includes elements that can be used in other areas. Deb will organize other aspects of this work.
- e. Communications/Publicity and Landowner sub-committees. Cary and Kelton are organizing work on these.
- f. Report format: Do we need a formal report from this effort? Or just a website with the results of the tasks. We all agreed that the website is more useful going forward. But it would be a good idea to keep a fixed copy as a historical record.
- g. Detail on existing trails: Rick provided a sample of what he has in mind for documentation of current trails. That format was approved, and includes a short blurb about the trail system, info about access (parking, signage, etc.), ownership, connections, and (most important) improvement needs. The improvement needs will be considered for the project action plan. Rick will begin to build this out.

3. TAP

- a. Goodnow Park: We have a green light to work on this property. Next step is to rough clear the trails and then invite Neighbors to walk through with us and discuss ideas. Then we can finish trails with the Trail Stewards.
- b. Red Fox Farm: No change in the past month/ We are still planning to work with Walcotts but need to wait and see on another possible approach through Princeton Land Trust.
- c. Worcester Road West Trails: Trails on the Worcester Road side have been partially cleared and flagged and Rick has added some map signs to help people find their way through. There are still a couple of small sections to fine tune. Rick is planning to walk through with Tom Sullivan to talk over next steps for the PLT property. We will continue to clear and refine the trail.
- d. Calamint Hill: Will move new bridge segments out to the streams this weekend. Kiosk frame has been built and installed, and the content/printing is being ordered this week. Boy Scouts have completed trail signs and need to schedule the installation.
- e. Deb has engaged a new neighbor to explore options between Bullock Lane and Thomas Prince School. Rick is working to engage.

4. Trail Map: No activity. Rick is working with All Trails.

5. Princeton Hikes continue to work well, and hikes are all at capacity (20 people). Rick, Susan, and Karen are actively involved in this activity. Since last meeting we hiked the South side of Wachusett Reservoir and the North side of Mt. Wachusett. Also, a smaller group did Mt. Monadnock, and we did a Senior hike at Wachusett Meadow. Next hikes include Haywood Reservoir, Little Wachusett, and another Senior Hike at Wachusett Meadow.
6. Next meeting: Plan for November 10th.
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
8. Summary of outstanding to-do items:
 - a. Rick: Obtain OSRP Copies. Marie will help.
 - b. Rick: second meeting of the Trail Visioning and Action Plan project. Revisit vision and objective.
 - c. Rick: Continue analysis of Trail Mapping plans
 - d. All: Follow up on assigned tasks for the Trail Vision and Action Plan
 - e. All: Get comments to Rick about the vision statement provided above.
 - f. Trail Action Plans:
 - Deb and Tom are going to focus on trying to figure out the Bullock Lane to TPS link.
 - Rick will mark Goodnow park and get some Trail Steward folks to do rough clearing..
 - Rick to continue design of Red Fox link from Worcester Road to PLT Red Fox property.
 - Rick and Deb to work Worcester Road West trails.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Gardner