

Minutes of the Norwich Trails Committee for May 3, 2017

Present: Doug Brown, George Clark, Eric Dole, Gered Dunne, Jim Faughnan, Bob Fiskin, Peter Griggs, Doug Hardy, Byron Haynes, David Hubbard, Nick Krembs, Sean Ogle, Gerry Plummer, Brian Riordan, Liz Russell, Jonathan Smolin, Brie Swenson, Richard Zuckerman

Douglas Brown from the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) spoke about the relationship between the UVLT and the Trails Committee with reference to Brookmead. Eric Dole is to be liaison between the committee and the UVLT to facilitate communication between the two organizations regarding respective plans and activities of the two organizations. The UVLT is to receive data on volunteer time for trail work conducted on Brookmead. Discussion also covered means of marking trails, trail mapping, use of chain saws, possible future trail closings, and selection of trails for suggestions on needed work. The committee expressed appreciation to Doug Brown for his fine presentation.

Conditions on major trails were reviewed. Members of the committee have done much in recent days and months to remove fallen trees from several trails and have made bridge repairs on the Ballard Trail.

Nick Krembs emphasized that safety in trail work was a top priority for the committee.

A work session is to be held starting at 8:00 AM on May 7. One working group will meet at the pullout on Beaver Meadow Road and work on the lower part of the Blue Ribbon Trail. A separate working group is to meet on Turnpike Road at the stone drop area near Birch Hill Lane. It is anticipated that a leaf blower will be used along the upper portion of the Blue Ribbon Trail during the afternoon.

A few committee members are to prepare a redesign of the Gile Mountain bike route particularly for the section now located under the power lines. Work on relocating that section of the bike path at Gile Mountain is anticipated for the work session on May 21.

Fun runs for both children and adults at Parcel 5 on April 29 were successful. Another running event in the same series is to be on the Ballard Trail on May 20.

The condition of the long stone stairway on the Ballard Trail was discussed with suggestions of conceivable possibilities for improvements.

Respectfully submitted,
George Clark