

Minutes

Norwich Trails Committee

7 pm, February 4, 2026

Norwich Historical Society

Attendees

George Clark, Jim Faughnan, Bob Fiskin, Peter Griggs, Byron Haynes, Nick Krembs, John McCormick, Sean Ogle, Cody Williams

The meeting began at 7:04p.

Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

Comments from those present

There was some discussion around the origin and rationale for using a new Conservation Commission Zoom account under the town Zoom license for this and all future meetings.

Brie has organized a groomer to groom the trails around Parcel 5, Brookmead, and Huntley Meadow.

Updates from the UVTA

UVTA is building their Trail Corp schedule for the upcoming season and has budget for trail work in Norwich. Two possible candidates were replacing and extending the bog bridges on the lower end of the Rosemary Reiser trail or the replacement of the Milt Frye Nature Area bridge.

Updates from the Conservation Commission

Lynnwood continues to work on eradicating invasives and increasing biodiversity in the Milt Frye Nature Area. A possible collaboration to collect and chip Christmas trees with the Solid Waste Committee was put on hold until next year due to lack of time to coordinate a drop off site and chipper. The Emerald Ash Borer Subcommittee has been working on a draft RFP for tree removal with the Town Manager.

Reports on recent trail blockages and actions taken or planned

Bob reported several trees down across the Blue Ribbon Trail.

Gile bench

The family donating the bench would like to place it on May 2. Jim has requested dimensions and photos to enable preparing a foundation similar to the one used for the bench at Brown Schoolhouse Bridge.

Trail projects for 2026

Ballard Trail stone steps

Cody will contact the Town Manager to begin the process of getting Selectboard approval to apply for a Norwich Women's Club grant.

Ballard crossings

Nick walked this recently with a group and many of the crossings are not easy. Several members of the Trails Committee will walk this section in spring to choose three suitable sites to improve.

Gile fire tower tread coating

No updates.

Milt Frye Bridge

Bob will contact Saint Barnabas' Episcopal Church about the possibility of funding materials for a replacement bridge. UVTA is happy to do the work of designing and building the bridge.

Website updates

No updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40p.