

Danville Conservation Commission Notes (DCC)

Location: Town Hall Meeting & Zoom

2/06/2023

Attendance: Vange Morse, Bridget Ferrin, Deb Bixby, Barbara Hubruigste, Jake Langmaid, Greg Prior

1. Introduction of Greg Prior to the conservation commission. Due to time constraints for Greg he laid out his interests in aligning like goals of Danville groups and coordinating interests and projects.

Some of his ideas to consider:

- a. Arbor Day and Green Up Day activities
 - b. Invasive control: Some Japanese knotweed in Greenbanks Hollow along the banks of Joes Pond that should be addressed
 - c. He would like to do something to engage and do educational outreach for the community around invasives.
 - d. He pointed out that the White Pines along the school seem to be in bad health and proposed a planting party with kids to plant some new ones that will eventually take over. (We should ask Wes Everts our Town Warden about the state of the Pines and what might be a good eventual replacement if needed)
2. Vange said she spoke with Kieth Gadapee and he has roughed in the parking area along the access road to Rodgers Lot. The old gate is still there and we will need to make a new gate further in. Kieth has a couple options for footings that need to be reused: concrete rounds which we could drill out to put in a metal post, or telephone poles. Vange and Kieth discussed the potential for the gate to be a welding project, and Kieth offered that if it didn't work out we could always use galvanized cattle fencing.

3. Barb said she' in touch with Joe Hallowell who is a welder, fabricator and educator who may be interested in being a part of creating a gate. She will speak with him to gauge his interest.
4. Jake mentioned that there is a shop/apprenticeship program at the Danville School and they might be interested in a gate project, or point us in the right direction. Jake is going to reach out to him
5. Bridget has been doing some trail clearing/maintenance on Pumpkin Hill, she will continue to GPS the trails there.
6. Vange asked the group for suggestions for artistic vision on the trail map for Geoff to begin work making them. Bridget mentioned that she likes green backgrounds, contour lines, and blue streams. As far as marking the trails, we talked about delineating the double track/single track trails and maybe putting green, blue, and black colors on the trails to show degree of difficulty. We talked about putting a QR code on the map so they can be downloaded although the point was made that there is not great cell service in either of the two forests.
7. Vange will get in contact with Michael Houghes to find out how far along they are with the kiosks. Funding, and map building of their own, and to discover what kind of maps they are interested in posting at the railroad station. And any signage design parameters they have developed. Maybe a general town map which shows the location of the two town forests, and then two blow ups of the trail resources in each forest.
8. We discussed our schedule and timeline for the completion of our trail at Rogers Lot. The conclusion was to focus on mapping trails at Pumpkin Hill and XCing and GPSing some winter trails at Roger Lot in February/March, Trail roughing in/ building March/April with a completion target of May/June for a potential launch with school kids to help us blaze the trails, or make cute painted rocks along the trails for people to find. Something to introduce the kids to the trails. Maybe geocaching
9. Bridget said she would reach out to some of the teachers in Danville and try to network with them to get some enthusiasm about the trails and town forests with the kids.

10. Vange is willing to put up our display for the town meeting Day March 6th, and we should print an updated EAB map as well as some pictures of us making trails at Rogers Lot.
11. Next meeting will be a work day or XC day at Rogers Lot depending on weather conditions. Potentially the week of Feb 26th break. TBD.