

Minutes of the Conservation Land Ad Hoc Committee meeting of
11/2/2020:

Meeting convened at 6:01 p.m. Present were: Dan Badger, Bob Bentley, Savery Moore, Roger Shores, and Sarah Hewins (Chair). Savery did not want to take the minutes this time so, seeing no one else volunteer, the Chair volunteered to take the minutes of this meeting.

Dan reported on equipment. He will continue his search for equipment. Sarah reported that John Woods, DPW Superintendent, will train volunteers on chain saw use. Bob said DCR training takes 8 hours. Dan does medical (CPR/1st aid) training for an OSHA-approved group called Occupational Safety Specialists. Training would be for volunteers not committee members since members are already trained. Dan also has contacts/groups that could help us train.

Roger reported on Savery Avenue. The trails there now are single-person, need minor chain saw work, and the trails he saw are not in wetlands. More parking is needed. Identified problems: make trails wider and dog-friendly so that two people can walk side by side since many who walk Savery Avenue also have dogs and often come in pairs. Need scenic view areas such as the several stands of Beeches on the trails. Need interpretive signage, e.g., "Beech Tree Stand" with notes about soil, etc., that would indicate why they grow here but in few other places in Carver. Southern end of the trail is not visible.

Dan suggested we take some 3D photos of what's around us once a year so that, 10 years from now, we'll see what changed. His youth group is doing this project elsewhere. He also suggested some signage possibilities: "Exercise trail," "Trail maintenance is on-going by XX Group," suggestion boxes with QR code to our website. Savery suggested having a dedicated email @carverma.gov? Look into this. Or maybe CarverConservationStewards@[etc.].

Dan noted that the kiosk at Savery Ave has water damage. Sarah and/or Dan will look into pricing for new kiosks that are plastic or PVC or etching or adhering permanently to sign with clear coating.

Roger asked: do we want to do signs for all properties or for one area at a time? Savery suggested we do the easiest one first: Savery Avenue. Roger made a motion, and Savery seconded, to do all of Savery Avenue first, making it accessible to future trail volunteers/helpers. This will include all facets: widening, brush cutting, signage, parking, etc. Motion passed 5-0.

Sarah reported that the SB gave their approval for us to move forward with actual work on conservation lands. Savery will get permission from Conservation Commission at their 11/4/2020 meeting.

Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/8/2020. Dan seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Dan made a motion, Roger seconded, that we take a site walk as a group and begin to get the paths cleared and that everybody should wear orange. Sarah suggested Saturday 11/7/2020 as a date at 10:00 a.m. Motion passed 5-0. Sarah will post.

Dan will make a list of what works for marshalling volunteers. Bob will ask his Appalachian Mountain Club members. Dan asked if we have a budget. Sarah will look into this. Savery will look into what funds Conservation Commission may have for trail maintenance.

Savery made a motion to adjourn, Dan seconded, and motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Hewins, clerk pro tem for this meeting