



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TOWN OF BELMONT, NH

Minutes Tioga Marsh Loop Trail Layout
April 29, 2023
Belmont, NH

Present: BCC members: Denise Naiva, Pauline Tessier, (Chair Subcommittee Tioga Management Plan) Ed Stephenson, Georgina Lambert, Richard Moreau, Deb Woodcock, Jeff DeFrancesco, and Ron Klemarczyk (licensed NH Forester)

The meeting was called to order at 10:08am. Introductions were made and Pauline explained the purpose of the meeting is to rough out a loop trail. The opening and boundaries to the parking area were reviewed. Ron suggested clearing the saplings and underbrush by the parking area and to leave the large trees intact. The parking area should also be pruned up to the boulders which will lend the parking area more of a rectangle rather than a circle. Removal of the gates and repurposing them for the Currier Sanborn side of the property was also discussed. Litter was picked up in the parking area and within the property.

Several trail building points were made:

Avoid wet areas when possible.

A small bridge is recommended over wet areas as opposed to culverts.

Trail should not have sharp turns.

Signage and tree blazing should be carefully considered to ensure correct directions on trail.

An individual with chain saw certification should be utilized for trail clearing. (This reduces chances of accidents).

Remove invasive *Rosa Rugosa* by digging up the whole plant. Use caution with plant thorns. Thorn punctures in the skin can transmit sporotrichosis, a serious fungal infection.

Surveyor tape was placed on trees to map out the rough trail. It was acknowledged that some adjustments may need to be made. A small excavator could be used to clear the trail once the trail has been pruned/cut/cleared. The rough loop trail route was estimated to be approximately 1.5 miles.

There was discussion regarding the railroad bed, to notify the landowner of the trail plans and to discuss whether signage should indicate the private property.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Naiva, Chair
Belmont Conservation Commission