

**WELLESLEY TRAILS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2022**

Attendees: Steve Park, Denny Nackoney, Eric Sofen, Jay Prosnitz, Bob Brown, Ekaterina Zemlyakova, John Schuler, Laura Robert (NRC Liaison), Diane Hall
Absent: Joan Gaughan
Location: Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes for February 15, 2022 was made by Jay, seconded by Denny. Minutes were approved unanimously.

NRC Liaison

New commissioner (Lisa Collins) and new chair (Jay McHale).
Laura gave a brief update on current NRC projects.

Mobility Update

Denny shared an update from Joan. Oakland St residents whose kids walk to Fiske School go through the Town Forest. The “Fiske School” wayfinding sign has gone missing. Denny will get a new sign made and install it.

Spring Walks

All walks have leaders and sweepers assigned. 30 Apr – 4 Jun. Committee members are all in agreement that public health is in a place where we’re comfortable doing group walks. The May 15th walk will be the Morses Pond walk from Turner Road rather than the Grand Tour. Jay and Eric swapped which walks they will lead. Denny will put together a flier and coordinate advertising.

Centennial Reservation upper meadow vandalism

We discussed the ongoing challenges of managing the trail condition in the upper meadow at Centennial Reservation, further complicated by repeated vandalism of the fence lines. We discussed other fencing, trail surface improvements, or trail re-routes, but ultimately concluded that we have reached the limits of our resources and expertise. As a next step, Steve will reach out to Brandon regarding the help we need and whether to pursue an RFP for a consultant. Laura suggested CPC could be an option for funding a feasibility study.

Diane brought up another aspect of Centennial management - tree canopy trimming to preserve the view of the Blue Hills. Getting equipment in is a challenge, but it was last done approximately seven years ago. Diane will draft an email to Cricket and Brandon proposing the work.

Five Year Plan – Hundreds Trail

Denny explained the advantages of the Cliff route versus Ledgeways for the new Hundreds Trail.

	Pros	Cons
Cliff	Sidewalk Uses all the Rockridge Pond	Longer distance on road More traffic
Ledgeways	Quieter, scenic road Shorter distance on road	No sidewalk on Ledgeways

Steve proposed if we do the Ledgeways route, we include a “Trail to Cliff Road” sign at Rockridge and vice-versa on Cliff. The committee agreed to go forward with the Ledgeways route. Denny will bring this to the NRC for approval.

Project List check-in

No updates on the current project list. Laura shared the Wellesley Office Park trail extension idea with CPC as a possible future project in partnership with DCR.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, April 26, 2022** at 7 pm in the Juliani Room at Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Documents available by request: FY22 Project List (3/15/22), Hundreds Trail proposed routes map.

Current 5-Year Project Plan is on the Trails website.

Submitted by,
Eric Sofen
Secretary, Wellesley Trails Committee