

Sanford Trails Committee
Monday July 21, 2025

Members Present: Lawrence Furbish, Dereck Bourque, Steve Schneider, Dave Parent, Dollie Hutchins, Melanie Taylor Coombs, Brady Lloyd, Eric St. Onge, Thom Gagne, Sam Parady

Guests: Harold Carpenter III, Monica McKenna

Meeting began at 7:03

1) Approval of the minutes from the June 25, 2025 meeting. Dollie noted that there were more than three historic signs that needed new stickers with the exact number left unspecified. Lawrence updated the committee regarding potential trails on IDC land along Rt 4, saying that the possibilities mentioned in the minutes were more up in the air. Motion by Dereck and seconded by Dave to approve the minutes as amended. Unanimously approved.

2) Financial Report - Brady: The trails committee has a clean financial slate with the deposit of the annual budget. CIP totals \$37,882.97 and the special revenue account stands at \$10,216.29. No new expenditures since last meeting; waiting on several encumbered bills including \$4,000 to both Bull Pine and the Rhododendron Reserve. Lawrence highlighted the need to spend the \$3,000 Pence grant for sidewalk upgrades in Springvale. The sidewalk project requires timely coordination with Public Works.

3) Committee Reports

- a. Communication/Outreach- Brady is willing to have Parks & Rec post photos for social media. The need to update the community on the Mousam Way South boardwalk repair was mentioned.
- b. Volunteer hours: 74.5 since last month

4) Old Business:

- a. The Trails Master Plan committee next meets at 6pm Monday August 11 in the City Hall conference room.
- b. Bull Pine tree removal/cleanup along Rail Trail: A lot of positive feedback from trail users
- c. Rt 4 Trail Connection: Mousam Way Land Trust is working with the Maine Coast Heritage Trust to obtain part of the parcel of land for sale including the sewer easement trail along the Mousam River between the high school and the bridge. The MCHT is strongly interested in securing the wetland area as a part of their river initiative.
- d. Signs: Dollie is getting stickers from Burpee Signs. Hazen and Thom to survey the signs which need repair.
- e. Rail Trail Gates: Hazen designed a new sign display system for the gates. Power washing the gates might restore the surface. The sandblasting company that Hazen contacted was not interested in the project.
- f. Cape Porpoise RR Bed: Lee Burnett to seek grant for the project. Lawrence to organize a future walk on the trail which starts where Jagger Mill meets 109. There are still

connectivity issues for this project, including no direct route to the Eastern Trail right now.

5) New Business

- a. Breton Ave MWS trail entrance is overgrown with weeds. An annual strategy is needed
- b. Three Rivers Land Trust: The local land trust is requesting a letter which states a commitment to work on the stilt grass invasive removal project. While the committee cannot dedicate specific hours at this time, Melanie suggested writing a letter of support for the project so the group can more easily attain grant funding. The committee acknowledges the importance of removing the weeds and notes that the trail in question does connect with the Rail Trail and is a primary connector between the Sanford Community Forest and the Rail Trail.
- c. Lee will update the committee on meetings with the Kennebunk Water District when he returns later this summer. The trails on their land lead towards the Eastern Trail.
- d. The committee discussed receiving memorial funds for trail restoration. Steve highlighted the need for specifics when requesting large donations.
- e. Funding has been approved (Pence Grant) to update the kiosk sign near Deering Pond. The new sign will include more historic detail about the sinking of the railcar into the bog. Lee is coordinating with the original Boy Scout who created the project.
- f. Matt Landry quoted \$3,500 to remove the invasives along the M.W.S./Public Works fence. Water from the Public Works is also washing out the trail. Matt Landry offered to install a culvert if supplied by the city.
- g. Brady to follow up with the Fire Department to determine if the locks on the Rail Trail gates need to be changed
- h. Steve offered to reach out to Shaw's Ridge for thoughts about extending the Rail Trail to the business up the hill

6) Adjournment. Motion by Thom and seconded by Dereck to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 8:23

Respectfully submitted by Sam Parady, Secretary