

Sanford Trails Committee  
Monday October 20, 2025

Members Present: Dereck Bourque, Lawrence Furbish, Steve Schneider, Eric St. Onge, Brady Lloyd, Sam Parady, Melanie Taylor Coombs, Hazen Carpenter

Thom Gagne and Katie Manende-Hall had excused absences.

Guests: Abigail Kunitz, Bethany Wallace, Aaron Wedgewood, Monica McKenna, Lee Burnett

Meeting began at 7:02

1) Approval of the minutes from the September 15, 2025 meeting. Motion by Hazen and seconded by Steve to approve the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

2) Financial Report - Brady: The CIP account totals \$14,456.74 with ~ \$4,500 encumbered towards the Rhododendron Reserve trail partnership with 3 Rivers Land Trust. This project is slated to take place next year per Lee. There is still some permitting and route modification to be made. Hazen estimates the complete cost of new signs for all the Rail Trail gates to be \$3-5 thousand. The Special Revenue account is \$2,452.29 after a \$3,000 crosswalk grant for trail crossings in Springvale was encumbered. The Kiwanis Club is going to contribute ~\$4,000 to the Special Revenue account for their share toward trail improvements from Stanley Road to the Leap.

3) CMP Construction near the Leap: Abigail Kunitz, a Project Outreach Specialist for Central Maine Power, led a presentation about upcoming changes to the Stanley Rd/Butlers Corner Substation. The station will be moved 16 feet back from the road and away from the parking lot. This lot also is the primary parking and entrance for Mousam Way North to the Leap. The work will take place from now to the fourth quarter of 2026. The parking lot will be restored to the current standard after many trucks and equipment. Brady asked that several spots be set aside for trail users. Work would take place during business hours. Any complete closures of the parking lot would be posted in advance. Hazen offered a site walk with representatives from the company.

4) Committee Reports

- A. Communication/Outreach: Melanie and Brady/Parks and Rec will move forward with posting and creating content on social media while Katie steps back from the role.
- B. Construction/Maintenance - Hazen: (i) Steve Mallon helped put up 5 historic signs around town. Smaller historic walkway signs with arrows are needed. No signs to be affixed to CMP polls. (ii) Gate frames have been made for the Rail Trail (iii) Locks have been stolen from the gates at Pioneer Ave, School Street and Hanson Ridge road. (iv) Brush is coming in along the Rail Trail ditch near Deering Pond/Hanson Ridge. (v) Snowmobile club in contact with the Rivard family about a new trail that would pass through the McKeon Reserve to the Farm Trail.

- C. City Relations: Brady to request \$35,000 for next year's Trails budget.
- D. Volunteer hours: 37 hours since last meeting

5) Old Business:

- A. The prior Trails Master Plan meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled Oct 27th, location TBD.
- B. Rt 4 Trail Crossing: Ruth Gavel formally declined any trail on her land going from Rt 4 to Gavel Rd. The Rt 4 bridge will not be widened when it is reconstructed but will have an underpass. The route beyond the underpass is not viable due to a property owner declining any trail easement. Lee explained the only likely route towards the Eastern Trail would go down Jagger Mill. Such a pedestrian/bike route would be beyond the scale of the Trails Committee.
- C. Trolley Line Trail: Kruger Energy to apply for \$250k grant to restore the trail along their corridor in South Sanford
- D. Sherwin Williams Rail Trail Connector: Eric is meeting with the snowmobile club to clean up the trail behind the store.
- E. Springvale Crosswalks: Trail crossing signs have arrived which Public Works will install
- F. Lawrence wrote letters of support for grant applications to Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Wells Water District and 3 Rivers Land Trust.

6) New Business:

- A. Trash on trails: Lawrence noted a shopping cart in a culvert along Mousam Way South. A general trash clean up day was suggested including reaching out to Great Bay Community Services for volunteers. Motion by Dereck and seconded by Sam to have Brady spend up to \$300 on trash pickers, gloves and buckets. Unanimously approved.
- B. The committee talked about having signs with information for emergency situations located on trails far from the gate.
- C. Superintendent Matt Nelson is requesting permission to create a small boardwalk connecting the tennis court to Mousam Way South. Permission granted.
- D. The committee talked about continuing Dollie Hutchins' involvement with geocaching and how to retrieve the geocache information after her passing.

7) Adjournment. Motion by Lawrence and seconded by Sam to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

Meeting ended at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted by Sam Parady, Secretary