Concord Trails Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

7/8/2026 Council Chambers Room, City Hall Annex
Members Present:
Fran Philippe, Rik Van Riel, Mark Cheever (Chair), Jason Massa, Nick Holmes (Vice Chair), Rebecca Ross and Judy Weatherbee (Alternate),
Staff: Kearsten O'Brien (Senior Planner), Kellie Caron (City Planner), Ron Klemarczyk (City Forester)
Other: Jeff Lewis (Conservation Commission Representative).

Guests: René and Beth Marro

1. Meeting called to order, 5:15 PM.

2. Consent Agenda
    a. June Minutes – motion by Fran, second by Rik, unanimously approved with recommended edits, below:
        i. 4b add "as recommended by committee"
        ii. Remove mountain bike on Map 26 should be a separate bullet
    b. Trail Maintenance Report – none.
    c. Forester's report accepted.

3. New Business
    a. Broken Ground – Marsh Loop– referral from Conservation Commission, citizen request to discontinue part of the trail in the most sensitive wet area.
    Justification – to minimize impacts to the wildlife at the pond. Was discussed previously when ghost pipe was approved.
    Request to look at reevaluation of rerouting the sensitive portion.
    This triggers the beginning of the information gathering phase. The chair requested that members walk it before next meeting. Staff will search for prior maps for next discussion.

4. Old Business

    a. West End Farm Trail – 76 Currier Road

    Presentation from the owners of 76 Currier Road. Seeking reevaluation of the trail abutting their property. *See slides and follow-up questions provided.* Complaints of encroachments by trail users and their unsecured pets, 24/7 use of the trail, increase in bikes and e-bikes and disruptive behavior. While they recognize the value of the trails, based on the changes in use and their unique circumstances they are requesting reevaluation of that portion of the trail.

    Discussion regarding the safety of the gun range and public that veer off of the trail onto private property, liability for accidents, erosion and degradation of the land, exposure of hazards, and using property as a bathroom. Discussion of

uniqueness including that the trail was established prior to the current, more detailed, trail criteria, the frequency of unwelcome dogs on their property, failure of public to follow signs and no enforcement ability. Question – why can the hours be limited on some trails but not others. Example, Dimond Hill Farm. Discussed minimal ability to relocate the trail due to location and options of fences, vegetation or other buffers.
Chair requested additional information about prior fence proposal (around 2018/19).

b. Trail Guide updates for review.

   Map 28 – approved with Fran's changes

c. Signage for trails that cross roadways on trails

   Requests for signage crossing roads go to TPAC. Need to clarify information where signage is needed for trail signs.

5. Other Business
   a. Hikes

   • July 18, 2026, Led by Carl – Jim Hill River Walk
   • August 29, 2026, Led by Bob – Oak Hill lower trails

6. Adjourn. Motion by Fran, second by Nick, unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Ross

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