

**Meeting called to order at: 6:03**

### **Roll Call**

In attendance: Russ Barrett, Lydia Petty, Colin Bright, Nelson Hoffman

### **Approval of Minutes of 5/24**

Motion by: Lydia Petty

Second by: Colin Bright

Vote: 4-0-0

### **Updates and News from members**

Per the town, we can't have any more all remote meetings now that there isn't a state of emergency. We can still allow for a call-in, but we're required to have someone meeting in person. A suggestion was made that we meet in the Library treehouse if weather is nice and in the community room if weather isn't nice. Agreement all around. Lydia is up for grabbing the key when it's necessary. Russ can also pick up the key. Some discussion occurred about maintaining a remote option.

There's another large tree down across the PMT near the VYCC bridges. Regular trail checks for downed trees etc. were discussed, perhaps a monthly inspection. Maybe we could involve community members as volunteers.

There's also a tree down across the yellow trail near the Southwest corner of the Cheney. It's unclear whether it's on town or Norwich land, but there's potential for the trail around the downed tree becoming more permanently ridden/walked in creating a new trail on what's potentially town land.

We need to check in with the town about how they feel about volunteers using chainsaws on town land.

Collin O'Neill's is still unavailable, but is excited to work with the TFSC on reroutes/etc. in a few weeks.

Russ will be attending an event in Barre Town focused around clearing that happened in their town forest.

### **Workgroups and Discussion**

#### Master Planning and Mapping:

There hasn't been any word back about legal review of the landowner permission form.

The selectboard approved our requests to remove trail 2B at their June 8 meeting. The TFSC will do the work of removing the trail and obstructing both ends of the trail and signing where it enters from private land.

Requesting that Strava remove the trail from their global heat map to discourage continued use was discussed, but it is unlikely that it would be successful. Removal date is set for 6/17/21 at 4:30pm. The group will meet at the intersection of Lybrand and the Paine Mountain Trail and proceed together. Lydia and Colin will draft language for the sign.

Russ will reach out to the landowner whose land is crossed by 2A about the section of to see whether he'll allow for the trail to remain on his property. Discussion ensued about whether we can provide a variety of options for how their land is included (i.e. hikers/bikers but no dogs, unmapped but still open, or other conditions). We want the relationships with neighbors to be strong and for any public use to work well for them.

#### NU Relations/Special Events:

The Paine Mountain Trail Race will not be happening this year. It's time to schedule a meeting with NU ROTC and Collin O'Neill to discuss the upcoming school year and any potential land use requests for field training exercises.

#### Education:

Nothing to report

### **Other Business**

Hawk Watch:

There's a donor that wants to help refurbish the Hawk Watch, but we need someone to organize it. It will be discussed by the Conservation Commission at their next meeting. We should reach out to the community to see if there are willing volunteers for the cleanup and rebuild. Russ will make Facebook and Front Porch Forum posts asking for volunteers. Maybe we can reach out to Lost Nation to see if someone with an ATV and trailer would be willing to haul materials? We should check in with NU Civic Engagement too to see if we can get some student volunteers. Norwich is discussing clearing the area in front of the Hawk Watch to restore the former view and remove invasive species from the area.

We need one new member, and potentially a second if the meeting schedule continues to be unworkable for the current education representative.

### **Meeting Adjournment:**

Motion: Colin

Second: Nelson

Vote: 4-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:46pm.