

**WELLESLEY TRAILS COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 12, 2021**

Attendees: Bob Brown, Diane Hall, Denny Nackoney, Steve Park, Laura Robert (NRC Liaison), John Schuler, Eric Sofen, Ekaterina Zemlyakova, and Jeff Zupan.  
Absent: Joan Gaughan, and Miguel Lessing  
Guests: Marie Taylor  
Location: via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Sam Anderson gave a project plan presentation for his Eagle Scout project at Centennial Reservation for constructing a three section bog bridge over a muddy area. He plans to do his project on Saturday, April 24.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes for March 13, 2021, was made by Diane and was followed by a second from Ekaterina. The vote carried unanimously.

Laura gave us an update on the construction plans for the rest rooms at Hunnewell Field. Construction may require the Crosstown Trail to be detoured, and we asked to be notified in advance so we can set up detour signs.

In place of our usual guided spring walks, we wrote up six self-guided walk descriptions for scenic, historical and geologic places along our trails. We uploaded them to our website, posted flyers at map houses, and publicized them on our Facebook page, in the NRC newsletter, on cable TV, and on Town News. Thanks to all who contributed to this effort!

Jeff reported that the Mobility Committee has a Sustainable Mobility Forum webinar on April 15 and encouraged committee members to attend.

Steve represented the Town at the Natick Trails Summit Zoom meeting on April 1 and summarized our trail interconnection plans to adjacent towns. It was encouraging to hear that other surrounding towns are planning trails expansions and also are looking for opportunities to connect with adjacent towns.

Trail degradation at Centennial Reservation over the winter is still a concern, and we discussed several problem areas. Some committee members have not seen the trail problems, and we will meet on May 1 at 9 am to review current conditions. At our next committee meeting we will discuss recommendations we will make to the NRC and DPW for remediation.

We have found two new unsanctioned trails in the North Forty in the mitigation area that need to be closed. One trail follows access cuts done during the mitigation cleanup and will be closed by the DPW. The other is along Turner Rd, and if we have time, we will close that trail after finishing our April 25 project.

The police received a report that kids were spray painting the Waban Arches, responded immediately and caught the kids responsible. The arches are on National Register of Historic Places and this has been an ongoing problem with kids defacing the site. Hopefully this will discourage further bad behavior.

We continued our discussion of projects for our 5-year project plan and reviewed the list of projects in the 2016 plan that were not completed. So far we have 11 suggested new projects to consider. We plan to make site visits to let members make informed decisions on potential projects.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12 at 6:30 PM using the Zoom platform or outdoors.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Documents available by request: FY21 Project List (4/12/21), Future Trails Development and Improvements Projects (4/12/21)

Denny Nackoney  
Vice Chair, Wellesley Trails Committee