

# Agenda

## Norwich Trails Committee and volunteers monthly meeting

7 pm, June 1, 2022

Huntley Meadow Pavilion

### AGENDA

1. **Approval of agenda:** Facilitator
2. Comments from those present: Attendees

### Infrastructure

3. Update from the UVTA: Ogle
4. Reports on recent trail blockages and actions taken or planned: Reports from attendees
5. Trail projects for 2022: Updates on trails projects discussed in May.
6. Allocate work for identified workdays (Sundays: May 22, June 4 and 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, and October 16), according to the following priorities:
  - a. Betty Booth Trail
  - b. Parcel 5 damage repair (May 22)
  - c. Brown Schoolhouse Road wet area (May 22)
  - d. A-frame bridge: haul materials (June 4); build new bridge (June 19)
  - e. Woody Adams Conservation Forest
  - f. Powers Trail drainage and treadway
  - g. Status of Upper Loveland Trail
  - h. Schmidt Bog boardwalk
  - i. Gile Mountain treadway
  - j. Tucker Trail quagmire crossing
7. Brown Schoolhouse Bridge bench: Review suggestions from Nick Fabrikant (see discussion material).
8. Signage (see discussion material)

### Financial

9. Status of Women's Club funding of proposed UVTA work on Powers Trail drainage: Ogle

### Other

10. Happy Hill turnaround: Update from Layne.
11. Appalachian Trail Corridor: Communication from the USFS.
12. Future website map formats: Plummer (see discussion material)
13. Update on the "Kids' bridge"
14. Items for July meeting
  - To be determined

15. **Adjourn:** Facilitator.

## Discussion Material

### 6. Brown Schoolhouse Bridge bench—Review suggestions from Nick Fabrikant:

I respect very much the added consideration; Durability- let's choose a bench that will last 80 years. Let's also tie the site together with an aesthetically appropriate structure and place it in the optimal orientation to make everything integrate, like Nature itself. Implemented with Honest Materials.

First the bench, to give you a rundown of five options I came up with, and are attached:

Attachment a) Attractive, concrete materiality acceptable, but lacks back support and is too ornamentally stripped.



Attachment b) Handsomely spartan. Stone durability is exceptional, but lacks back support and thus isn't orthogonally conscious. Would match aesthetically well though with nearly anything due to its timeless appeal.



Attachment c) Has a back and armrests and is orthogonally conscious but a bit post-modern and slick for our overall rustic aesthetic outcomes at the site. Durability is questionable due to the lack of substantial material proportions.



Attachment d) Handsome, inviting, safe, and made with treated mahogany specifically for the outdoors, but we can do better in regards to both matching the bridge and honoring maximum durability.



Attachment e) A triumph of design for our site.



This exact geometrical configuration in a pure silver color to match the aluminum color to connect itself to the railing and our site seamlessly. Streamlined-deco, moderne in the classical sense, exceptionally durable and safe, even the armrests are slightly cantilevered like the ends of the railings, and bolts connect firmly onto a concrete pad. Additional attributes below:

- Galvanized steel finished with 3-layer Powder Coating process
- ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act ) / Handicap accessible
- Customizable color
- Orthogonally conscious
- Maintenance free
- Highly durable in extremely hot, cold, humid and salty outdoor conditions
- Corrosion resistant
- High degree of UV protection and color stability
- Environment-friendly and 99% recyclable

Also, the bench is currently placed incorrectly in regards to the arrangement of the site.



Orientation: The bridge is orthogonal, man-created, hence the intentional contrast with wild Nature. Architecture never perfectly pieces into Nature, that's why attempts to do so, "to make

it match nature" look so wonky when attempted. This error is noticed, consciously or not, and immediately by the human eye and mind that there's something immediately off, incongruent, incompatible, contradictory. Rocks, trees, water, etc. are naturally cohesive and anything manmade should also be intentional in their geometrical prowess, hence the deliberate contrast and thus the organized connection of two opposing but complimentary parts. The bench is in the correct area, it's just facing the wrong direction- it should be perpendicular to the bridge with the seat facing those walking from the roadside to the trailside. To look upstream or downstream is a simple twist of the head, 30° at most in either direction. Perpendicularity also signifies intentionality- when one walks across the bridge, direct eye contact and smiles are welcomed by those sitting on the new beautiful bench on the other side of the stream.



We'd like to achieve a simple beauty where the eye doesn't have to work too hard to understand what's going on; this is the key, the hard-won simplicity in an aesthetically correct and unifying work.

Respectfully,

Nick Fabrikant

## 8. Signage

The Norwich Women’s Club allowed the purchase of material for trail signs. The grant application showed proposed signs in the following locations, which are now subject to confirmation:

### Bradley Hill Loop:

Intersection	Proposed content
First side trail from kiosk	← Trail →
Second side trail from kiosk	← Trail →
Ladeau Road/Kerwin Hill Road	← Bradley Hill Trail Loop →
Kerwin Hill Road/Patrell Road	← Bradley Hill Trail Loop →
Patrell Road/Powers Trail	← Bradley Hill Trail Loop →
Top of Powers Trail	← Bradley Hill Trail Loop →

### North of the Appalachian Trail (subject to coordination with UVLT and USFS):

Intersection	Proposed content
Burton Woods Road: “The Office”	← Sue Spaulding Road Bragg Hill Road →  ← Griggs Mountain Trail
Arison Parcel intersection (UVLT)	← Griggs Mountain Trail →
Sue Spaulding Road/Burton Woods Road	← Sue Spaulding Road Burton Woods Road →
Burton Woods Road/TH51	A/T →  Burton Woods Road ← Illsley Road Bragg Hill Road →
Illsley Road	Burton Woods Road to Bragg Hill Road
AT/Griggs Mountain Trail	Griggs Mountain Trail to Burton Wood Road
Tucker Trail/Joshua Trail	Joshua Trail to Joshua Road (needs USFS permission)  Tucker Trail ← A/T southbound Happy Hill Road →
Tucker Trail/Happy Hill Road	Tucker Trail to A/T southbound

**South and east of the AT Corridor:**

Intersection	Proposed content
Joshua Road/Joshua Trail/Dothan Brook Trail	Joshua Trail to Tucker Trail (needs USFS permission)  Dothan Brook Trail to A/T southbound (needs USFS permission)  Joshua Road to Cossingham Trail
Cossingham Trail/Joshua Road	Joshua Road  Cossingham Trail to Bragg Hill Road
Cossingham Trail/Appalachian Trail	Appalachian Trail to Norwich  Appalachian Trail to Hartford  Cossingham Trail ← Joshua Road Bragg Hill Road →

The proposed signage doesn't include mileage on the theory that the kiosk provides the overall route information, which can be captured in a photograph. The signs provide confirmation of location.

**11. Future website map formats: Plummer**

- Current website maps rely on CalTopo freeware and the use of a Photoshop (license required) to edit out unwanted features (e.g. private trails). This is a tedious, ad hoc process which must be repeated for every map/version.
- Next generation of maps will continue to use CalTopo, but employ features that allow us to efficiently overlay our trail system data (stored in files we control) onto a base map we have created to capture the topography and other, non-trail features we wish to include on the map.
- Next-generation maps will be available, as now for download for private printing.