

CITY OF DOVER

COMMUNITY TRAIL COMMITTEE – MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Meeting Location: **First Floor Conference Room, City Hall 288 Central Ave
Dover NH**
Meeting Date: **Tuesday, July 7, 2026**
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

Members Present: Patrick Manning (Chair), Jacqueline Manning, Tom Ryde, Eric Ryherd, Kean McDermott, Shayna Sylvia

Others Present: Bill Stafford

Staff Present: Director of Planning and Community Development Donna Benton

Meeting began at 5:30 pm

1. Introductions

2. Approval of June 2, 2026 Minutes

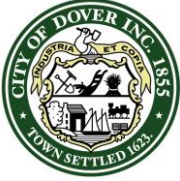
Motion to approve made by S.Sylvia seconded by E.Ryherd vote: All in favor.

Bill Stafford provided concerns about e-bikes on the trail and requested more signage on the trail. P. Manning noted he would go out and take photos of what is there now, can discuss at the August meeting and review what's needed. The group discussed speed limits. He noted the police presence on the trail and that it seems really well maintained. He left at 5:42pm. The idea is that signs may be added near the transportation center, Rutland Trailhead, and staggered fence area. K.McDermott suggested there is e-bike/battery/general bicycle safety awareness education provided at the schools.

3. ChalkFest Recap

The group noted the event went well. It was suggested to have a rubric or criteria for judges next year especially for people's choice. J. Manning has the excel for the raffle and can randomly select one. S.Sylvia sent out the notifications to the award recipients and D.Benton confirmed people were stopping in to collect their prizes. People liked having the bathroom, \$250 in donations was raised and deposited. The Dover Arts Commission funds trail art up to \$1,000. There are still plenty of supplies left but need a box of white chalk, Next year, we should get prizes in advance to then use in the marketing efforts. S.Sylvia and J.Manning will write thank you notes to the sponsors. The kids were very into the event this year.

4. Clean-up Day Prep



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E.Ryherd presented the flyer and received feedback for the simultaneous clean-up day even with Don't Trash Dover focusing on the stretch near the Silver St. tunnel on Saturday July 25th in the morning. He will send a revised version to D.Benton to send to Media Services. Staff created an event on Facebook. J.Manning will have a truck, the Police Department will be warned about the truck/trailer on the trail, D.Benton will ask about borrowing city loppers.

5. Updates on Ongoing Projects

a. Public Art on the Community Trail

The former deer painting behind Hillside park needs to be replaced and the group was holding a competition. One email push was sent out but then changes with staffing has presented issues with the promotion, deadline, and receiving responses. The group decided to update the forms on the website, extend the date to September 3rd, and continue trying and will re-visit at the August meeting.

b. Trail Improvements

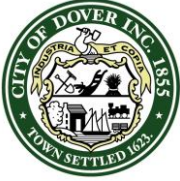
P.Manning asked about the stencil of the turtle. D.Benton will look. P.Manning and J.Manning painted the back of the Rotary trailhead recently. S.Sylvia created a new draft poster and presented it during the meeting to the group and received feedback. She will edit and measure the trailhead and can finalize for installation. Turtles on sidewalks need to be repainted.

c. TAP Extension Phases IV-A and IV-B

D.Benton provided an update on the process with the consultant and NHDOT. NHDOT has approved additional funding and the city still has enough for the 20% local match so more progress should be occurring soon.

d. Adopt-A-Trail

No update



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e. Outreach and Trail Events

July 25th clean-up even is the focus as well as repainting the turtles with stencils.

d. Review: Visioning and Goals

P.Manning asked about extending fencing out and making stair area more visible by the pedestrian bridge and to block off the side trails a bit more.

e. Other Business

S.Sylvia provided an update and recommendation on the Clipper City Trail in Newburyport.

f. Next meeting- August 4, 2026

g. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by E.Ryherd at 6:30pm. Seconded by J.Manning Vote: U/A