

Guilford Conservation Commission
Land Stewardship Committee
Meeting Agenda
Monday, January 4, 2016, 7:00 PM
Community Center, Alexander Lounge

Members: Heather Allore (secretary), Dave Bell, Doug Clark (chairperson), George Goss, Paul Mei, Phil Regas, Lynn Saiers. Alternate: Rob Musterer
Staff: Kevin Magee, Michelle Nazario
New Volunteers: Robin Baslaw, Susan Smith

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Call to Order | D. Clark |
| 2. Approval of Agenda | All |
| 3. Approval of Minutes – November 2, 2015 | M. Nazario |
| 4. Public Forum | D. Clark |
| 5. Chairperson's Report | D. Clark |
| a. Recent work parties | |
| a.i. Braemore, 12/28/2015: H Allore, D Clark, P Regas, L Saiers | |
| a.ii. Timberlands, 12/28/2015: H Allore, D Clark, P Regas, L Saiers | |



Before



After

- | | |
|--|----------|
| b. Proposed joint meeting with Guilford Conservation Commission | |
| c. Recording volunteer hours | |
| 6. Environmental Planner's Report | K. Magee |
| a. Budget | |
| b. Land Stewards | |
| 7. GCC & CFPA Liaison Reports | P. Mei |
| 8. Trail reports; proposed work parties | |
| a. Braemore | |
| b. Timberlands | |
| c. East River Preserve | |
| 9. Other Business: news, events, suggestions, new agenda items, etc. | |
| 10. Adjournment | |

Land Stewardship Committee

Priority tasks (revised & updated, 01/04/2016):

Revising/Updating Timberland, East River, Braemore, James Valley trail maps

- a. On town website
- b. Hard copies

Timberland re-blazing:

- c. Red to White X,
- d. main White (in a few short locations),
- e. Red Circle,
- f. Green,
- g. Blue X through Gulch,
- h. Purple (ideas to make more visible?)

Timberland construction projects:

1. Complete boardwalk on NET heading N from N Madison Rd (joint project with CFPA)
2. Install split rail fencing at Maupas Rd parking/trailhead
3. Hire professional tree service to remove large uprooted trees from White Trail, at boardwalk where purple-X trail meets white trail. Repair boardwalk. (Access from Twin Bridge parking/trailhead.)

ERP:

1. Illegal trails needing to be blocked off
2. Protection of sensitive turtle habitat

Braemore:

1. Finish re-blazing
2. Meadow mowing

Snag on yellow-X trail, near junction with yellow trail, western section of Timberlands:



After sizing up the situation, Phil & Doug determined that the tree, when cut, would fall in the direction of the person in the photo. Phil sawed & Doug pushed, and sure enough, the tree fell in that direction. But it was still snagged, on a couple of beech (?) trees on the other side of the trail. Phil cut one of the trees down, and was cutting the other down when his chainsaw got pinched in the cut. Doug walked back to his car & got his backpack with handsaw. Doug tied one end of a rope on the snag and the other end on a standing tree. Phil began sawing with the handsaw. We could hear cracks as the tree was beginning to give way. Doug yelled at Phil once to get back, but the snag only slid a foot or so down. After several tries like this, the cut tree toppled and the snag fell to the ground across the trail. We finally freed the chainsaw from the cut tree, but in the process the chain had gotten pulled outside the safety guides, and try as we might, we couldn't get it back on the sprocket. Since we couldn't do any more chainsawing, we created a temporary small detour around the downed tree. When the chainsaw is back in business and Phil and Doug coordinate their schedules, we will finish the job.