

Guilford Conservation Commission

Land Stewardship Committee

Approved Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 4, 2016 @ 7:00 PM

Community Center, Alexander Lounge

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Doug Clark

Members present: Heather Allore (secretary), Doug Clark (chairperson), George Goss, Paul Mei, Lynn Saiers, Dave Bell and Phil Regas

Excused:

Alternate present: Rob Musterer

Alternate absent:

Staff Present: Kevin Magee – Environmental Planner

Michelle C. Nazario, recording secretary

2. Approval of Agenda

D. Clark made motion to approve agenda that was seconded by H. Allore. It was unanimously voted to approve the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes November 2, 2015

Approval of Minutes: Chairman D. Clark made a motion to approve meeting minutes from November 2, 2015. The motion was seconded by P. Mei and was unanimously approved once updates have been corrected.

Public Forum Sally Whiteman – a guest

5. Chairperson's Report

- a. Recent work parties –

- a.i. Braemore: a work party took place on 12/28/15 in which the Blue Trail, the white/red dot and blue with white dot were worked on. Most of the areas had downed trees that were cleaned up. H. Allore suggested that the map and the trails match.

- a.ii. Timberlands

- b. Proposed joint meeting with Guilford Conservation Commission to go over what the guide lines are for the Land Steward Commission. Kevin Magee stated that there is time on the agenda for them and they can discuss their concerns. Kevin Magee will let the conservation commission know on January 27th that the Land Steward Commission would like to join them at their February 24th meeting to discuss projects for 2016.
- c. Record Volunteer hours – Doug Clark would like the volunteer hours to be recorded. Question was raised regarding who will monitor this and how it can be done. Lynn Saiers will look into some options. Kevin Magee suggested a spreadsheet.

6. Environmental Planner's Report

- a. Budget- K. Magee stated that he put in for the same budget as last year. There is approximately \$2000.00 left in the budget after he ordered a new chainsaw, trimmers for grass and brush. It will need to be signed in and out and it will be stored in the old public works building. He is looking for a brush hog trimmer to be purchased which run approximately \$1500 to \$2000, and will also need to purchase material for kiosk. In the meantime the park and recreation department has one that can be barrowed when it is not in use. All materials paint, Plexiglas, map and signs all come out of budget 2015-16.
- b. Land Stewards – K. Magee updated the committee that the Land Steward position has been filled by Gillian Carroll. She has and natural resource back ground and mapping skills. Her first day was Monday, January 4, 2016.

7. GCC & CFPA Liaison Reports – P. Mei reported there was little activity due to holiday time. Adjacent open space owners from Durham and Madison would like to join us at one of the meetings for some proposals about the connecting trails in the Braemore Preserve area. He will report back with dates so an email can be sent out to let everyone know accordingly.

8. Trail reports

- a. Braemore- Doug Clark stated that the red trail needs re-blazing. Dave Bell asked about the horse trail and noticed that the markings have changed and the bridle loop hasn't been finished was that still in the works? This also needs to be re-blazed. Phil Regas indicated that the Braemore trail maps need to show the trail colors. Kevin Magee indicated that the trail stewards will be remapping this area.
- b. Timberlands – the lumber has been taken care off. The trails in the west section are in good shape. The boardwalk needs to be fixed with better footings and support in the spring.

- c. East River Preserve – George Goss stated that on the East side there is a big tree that came down that needs to be cut up which the land stewards will be taking care of. Kevin Magee indicated that the illegal trail has been blocked off and is being checked once a week by the land stewards.

A fence has been installed blocking access to the sensitive wild life area located between the field and the river.

9. Other Business: news, events, suggestions, new agenda items, etc. Concern was brought up for James Valley that warnings should be posted more on the land trust side.

East River Preserve roads should be marked accordingly.

A suggestion was made about how long the trails are, how long it would take to walk and what level of difficulty the trail is.

Kevin Magee passed out a Volunteer Contract and the Guilford Conservation Commission Land Stewardship Committee Mission statement that was recently approved by the construction commission. It was noted that the role of the secretary was not described. H. Allore was assigned the task of creating wording for the secretary position.

Lynn Saiers suggested updating the maps on the town website to have them found easier.

10. Adjournment

Adjournment: Then, with no further business before it, upon a motion by D. Bell and seconded by P. Regas which was unanimously voted. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Nazario

The next meeting of the LSC will be Monday, March 7, 2016