

Land Stewardship Committee  
March 2, 2015  
Draft Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairman Bill Johnson.

Members present: George Goss, Don Segal, Bill Johnson, Paul Mei, Heather Allore,

Excused: David Bell

Alternate present: Douglas. Clark

Alternate absent: Amy Greenleaf

Staff Present: Kevin Magee, Environmental Planner

Staff: Michelle C. Nazario, recording secretary

1. Approval of Agenda: B. Johnson made motion to approve agenda and H. Allore seconded, it was unanimously voted to approve the agenda.
2. Approval of Minutes: B. Johnson made a motion to approve meeting minutes from January 5, 2015 and seconded by D. Clark it was unanimously approved once amended.
3. Public Forum: Rob Musterer, Philk Regas and Jason Marchi where present to volunteer for the Land Stewardship. They gave their information to K. Magee and they will be contacted for their services. A boy scout from Troop 472 attended the meeting as well. He is looking to receive his citizen merit badge. He will be available to help with clean up of trails.
4. Chairperson's Report: B. Johnson had no new information to report.
  - a. Membership Status – B. Johnson reported that there are 2 vacancies on the board now that D. Segal will be leaving and 1 alternate spot is open.
  - b. Priority tasks – B. Johnson reported that there are approximately 3 or 4 trees down on the yellow Timberland's trail that needs to be taken down due to blocking the trail. H. Allore reported that the white with red dot trail is being used a lot as well as the orange trail.  
Plastic color blaze markers need to be ordered for the trails in violet, Red, Dark Blue and Yellow  
Need footers for some trails and kiosks. An indoor work party needs to be scheduled. Time and date will be determined.
5. Materials & Supplies
  - a. New items purchased – K. Magee reported the hazel hoe is on order. P. Mei gave a catalogue of tools to B. Johnson to have on file for future supplies needed.
  - b. Additional items needed – there is no additional supplies needed at this time.

- 6 Environmental Planner's Report (Kevin)
  - a. Budget 2015-16 – Kevin Magee reported that the budget is in process and the budget for Land Stewardship was not effected. The 2 positions for Land Stewardship have been signed off by the selectman and will be posted spring time.

H. Allore suggested calling the New Haven Land Trust Commission and the Vo-Tec schools to see if they have any possible applicants to apply.
  - b. Trail map projects – Kevin Magee reported that Ted Mechovich and Sara Williams from the Land Trust are working on the Northwood's Map. A suggestion was made to have the lay outs for the maps to be similar and text should be added regarding The New England Scenic Trail indicating the mileage that the trail goes through on each property. A suggestion was made to expand the size of the maps to legal size. H. Allore asked about the James Valley and the different approaches to get to James Valley.
7. GCC Liaison Report (Paul) P. Mei stated that at the February 2015 Conservation Commission meeting they spoke about the major parking areas that need to be taken care of. Braemore, Bluff head, Sullivan Dr and Clapboard Hill needs to be plowed. There has been parking on Route 77 which isn't safe.
8. Property & Trail Reports
  - a. Timberland – H. Allore stated that she has seen cross country skiers, and some hikers using the trails. There are some trees that are down on North Madison Rd trail area.
  - b. Northwoods (Braemore / Meyer Huber / James Valley)

Braemore will be eliminating the gold trail. There are parts that are wet and unable to be maintained. The 2 loops between horse trails will be closed as well.

B. Johnson made a motion for closing of the gold trails and was seconded by H. Allore. It was unanimously voted to approve the closing of the trail.

Meyer Huber – the Lone Pine trail relocation has been completed. There are 3 gullies that will be lined with small stones and would like to be finished this year. The bridge was also eliminated.
  - c. East River Preserve- G. Goss and a helper cleared out the parking area, but since more snow storms have come it has been hard to maintain and the helper is now gone.

P. Mei received a message from a private owner who abuts the trail that there was a cut through made through his property to get to trails wanting to know if this was part of the Land Stewardship. This wouldn't be done by this commission. The adjacent property owner should post signs on his property to discourage this any further.

B. Johnson questioned if it has been approved for hunters. It is still being discussed.

9. Other Business: news, events, suggestions, new agenda items, etc  
Sullivan gates are made and are ready to be put up however the spot needs to be worked out with Jim Portley, Town of Guilford Engineer.

P. Mei was contacted by Rick Huntly of Durham. He would like to start a similar commission and would like to come to meeting and shadow.

B. Johnson discussed dates for work parties. B. Johnson to lead one on April 25, 2015 and future work parties to be scheduled as time gets closer and weather breaks.

H. Allore to lead a garage work party on March 21, 2015 with a cancellation date of March 28, 2015

Adjournment: Then, with no further business before it, upon a motion by B. Johnson and seconded by Paul Mei it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Nazario

The next meeting of the LSC will be **Monday, May 4, 2015**