

Land Stewardship Committee
March 3, 2014
Draft Meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order: 7:00pm by Chairman Bill Johnson

Members present: M. Brown, G. Goss, P. Mei, B. Johnson, H. Allore

Excused: D. Bell, K. Clark, D. Segal

Alternate present:

Alternate absent: A. Greenleaf

Staff: Kevin Magee, Environmental Planner

Michelle C. Nazario, recording secretary

A. Administrative

1. Approval of Agenda: H. Allore motion to approve, G. Goss 2nd, unanimous
2. Approval of Minutes: January 6, 2014: B. Johnson noted change in Section 5: motion to approve as amended, 1st P. Mei and 2nd H. Allore. Unanimous
3. Public: no public
4. Chair Person Report

A. Budget – Budget for 2014-15 has not been approved yet, but the Conservation Commission has requested \$3000.00 for stewardship.

K. Magee reported nothing was spent since October 2013 and the amount in the account is \$2896.76.

K. Magee suggests that you want to use the money and to not carry over a significant amount for the next years' budget.

B. Johnson noted that the new maps for Northwoods, East River Preserve and Timberland will be approximately \$400.00.

K. Magee to look into a company to cut the Braemore Preserve meadow and to help clean up of the invasive along the trails at East River Preserve

H. Allore asked if this would be out of a separate budget.

B. Johnson to ask K. Clark to look into getting a report on species for Braemore Preserve

B. Dog Leash – K. Magee to have meeting with Police Chief regarding rules and regulations. H. Allore suggested a representative besides K. Magee to attend and G. Goss will attend the meeting and B. Johnson also suggested if possible within a months time.

P. Mei commented that possibly look into a dog park

H. Allore questioning town ordinance on leash law – if by state regulation or town ordinance it becomes a safety issue.

K. Magee not to refer to state law

H. Allore commented on dog park, it should not go under land stewardship it would be best represented under Parks and Recreation

P. Mei referred to a letter in the paper regarding having the dogs on leashes

B. Johnson possible to have a police officer at Sullivan Drive to make sure dogs are on a leash that are no longer then 7ft.

- H. Allore stated that Bill Bloss, an attorney looked up the state statute and there is no requirement for a leash, but that dog owner is keep dog under control.
- K. Magee states that it is up to town for what is considered under control.

5. GCC Liaison – B. Johnson brought up the possibility to hire a land steward. Gary MacElhiney is perusing this.

B. Johnson will forward the job description to K. Magee.

K. Magee is looking into options on how to fund job.

B. Stewardship Items

1. Properties

- a. Timberland – scheduled work party for Saturday, March 8 has been cancelled due to weather and possibly to be rescheduled for Saturday, March 15th. If need be will do two weekends a month to get trails ready.

B. Johnson to meet with Clare Cane to finalize map.

B. Johnson eliminated a number of trails to simplify the map

Blue trails in the southwest part, the two blue trails need to be distinguished. A suggestion was to add a white dot in the middle of blue for the blue trail located near the southwest corner of the property.

K. Magee suggested the solid red circles be bigger so they stand out.

B. Johnson made changes to side bar he took out information on Orville Tice and put in more about the forest.

B. Johnson made a motion of approval of changes in map and H. Allore seconded. All in favor

The Timberland kiosk for Rt 80 and North Madison Rd is ready to go.

B. Johnson questioning the Kiosk to be ready to be posted April/May – or least by the 375th celebration.

P. Mei requested a map to use for tree identification – B. Johnson stated it would be separate map

B. Johnson to ask if it is possible to use highlighting for identification of different types of trees.

CFPA training – B. Johnson questioning when next CFPA training class will be conducted and is there a possibility to have it held at Braemore so some of the work can be done by the attendees for training. The next scheduled date is April 26.

- b. Braemore – B. Johnson asked K. Magee about some of the pine trees. K. Magee added that he will need to go out and look at them to see what ones can be tagged to be removed.

B. Johnson asked about CFPA training?

H. Allore – next scheduled training date is April 26th with the location to be determined. Clare to decide location.

If we want the training and education to be in Guilford at Braemore we will need to submit an application.

H. Allore – this can help with the clearing invasive brush at the boardwalk, blazing and help with erosion control

B. Johnson will email Clare to find out what needs to be done.

- c. James Valley Preserve – no update
- d. Meyerhuber Preserve – no update
- e. Northwoods trail map – land trust is updating
- f. East River Preserve – need maintenance –trails to be blazed; parking area by gate should have some guard rail fence posts. Some wetlands are in the area of the proposed parking area near the brush leaf disposal area which needs to be designed with consideration to the wetlands.
 - H. Allore questioned the amount of cars that will fit.
 - K. Magee approximately 10 – and also reported a tree that has fallen into the river that needs to be removed and will contact Public Works.
 - P. Mei questioning when will tree be removed and if Public Works can take care of some cleaning with machine at Bearhouse Rd.

2. Guilford 375th Trail Events -

P. Mei to layout itinerary of schedule for the signature trail events. There will be scheduled guided hikes for June 6, 7 and 8th. A unveiling of the mural to be painted on the Sullivan Drive Bridge, Friday, June 6th and the inauguration of the New England Trail at Chittenden Park on Sunday June 8th. There will be short and long walks in the trails, family and children walks as well.

3. Materials and Supplies – B. Johnson asked K. Magee who is on the authorized list at Country Paint and Hardware account and Landon Lumber account: The authorized purchasers are B. Johnson, H. Allore, K. Clark and K. Magee

No purchases are needed at this time

4. Volunteer Recruitment –

H. Allore added some emails for potential volunteers.

P. Mei has been in contact with David and Peter Ott to volunteer at East River Preserve when the weather breaks. They have experience with previous type of projects. They will be in contact with P. Mei.

K. Magee has had some contact with the scouts and them earning their badges.

C. Other business

D. Review:

The work party scheduled for Saturday, March 15, 2014 has been postponed due to weather however Saturday, March 22nd and Saturday, March 29th are temporarily scheduled.

Then, with no further business before it, upon a motion by Bill Johnson and seconded by P. 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 5, 2014**