

Land Stewardship Committee
July 6, 2015
Draft Meeting Minutes

No Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by secretary Heather Allore

Members present: Paul Mei, Heather Allore

Excused: Doug Clark, Dave Bell, George Goss

Alternate present:

Alternate absent:

Staff Present: Kevin Magee – Natural Resources
Michelle C. Nazario, recording secretary

No Quorum

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. No vote could be taken due to no quorum.

2. Approval of Minutes – May 4, 2015

The minutes were reviewed but could not be voted on until the next meeting due to no quorum.

3. Public Forum - Suzanne Smith has joined the volunteer group for conservation. She retired 3 years ago and is looking to volunteer her time. Robin Baslaw is newly retired and would also like to volunteer her time.

4. Chairperson's Report – Due to the Interim Chairman Doug Clark being absent Heather Allore guided the meeting. Over the past several months, there was work parties held at East River Preserves, Clapboard Hill Rd entrance, Braemore Preserve and the trails. Dave Bell is working on relocating the White Trail in the Timberland Trails by Mapus Road. Fallen trees were cleared from timberland trails along with poison ivy treated by Guilford lakes kiosk. Fence rails were replaced at Braemore Preserve and Bluff Head. ATV activity was observed at Braemore Preserve , Crooked Hill Rd entrance.

5. GCC Liaison – Paul Mei stated that the Land Conservation did not meet and in June there was not a quorum. They just received two new members. There is still one regular member seat and position available.
6. Environmental Planner's Report (Kevin) – Kevin Magee stated that he is working on getting the use of a public works vehicle to help with the wood that is left at Heather Allore's house for storage and move it to the old public works building. This will need to be scheduled with at least a day or two ahead of time. He will need at least 3 volunteers to help with the move.

One of the Land Stewardship positions has been filled once the applicant completes his background check and should be starting within a month. This still leaves one opening and they are still interviewing for.

The police are aware of the ATV usage. They are exploring ideas of camouflage cameras so they can track down the owners of the ATV's. P. Mei asked if boulders can be put in the opening to block them from going through and also to post signs. The Board of Selectman approved changes to the town ordinance to horses to be on the trails at the East River Preserve and dogs at certain beaches. Heather Allore stated that the maps should reflect that information.

7. CFPA Liaison Report (Paul) – Paul Mei reported that there is a new Connecticut Trail Book that will be one book instead of 2. Proof readers will be needed. The CFPA will be re-walking the NET as well and any other information will be on the computer. On Saturday, July 18, 2015, CFPA will be walking one of the Timberland trails with Winslow supporters.
8. Budget, materials & supplies – Kevin Magee stated that we are now in the new budget for 2015-16. A new commercial grade weed whacker needs to be purchased as well as commercial type shelving for the shed.
9. Volunteers update – Robin Baslaw and Suzanne Smith are joining the volunteer group.
10. Property's Update
 - a. Timberland – priority – to install split rail fence at Twin Bridge Rd entrance

- b. Braemore – Kevin Clark is handling the wet meadow near the Rt 77 entrance. He will be advising regarding maintaining the area.
 - c. James Valley – was blazed in May
 - d. Meyer Huber – changing to red bar on the bottom instead of the circle of blue on Lone Pine Trail.
 - e. Northwoods trail map revision project is almost done, just some fine tuning. Would like the 3 dimensional view to be taken off and before it is final the Conservation commission would like to review it.
 - f. East River Preserve – The red trail has been blazed. There is a pack of coyotes in the area and Sara Williams reported to be careful and watch your pets as well. The gate project location is still being discussed with Town Engineer. Heather Allore mentioned that there should be enough room for the trailers for the horses to be turned around.
11. Other Business: news, events, suggestions, new agenda items, etc. – P. Mei suggested that the parking area at Bluff Head be looked at. There is growth of weeds that is taking over and its getting hard to park.
12. Action plans/work parties – P. Mei will teach how to blaze just need to contact him to schedule time and place. Heather Allore suggested to “adopting” a trail that you can blaze and keep up on.
Work parties are set up for the following Saturdays, 7/11, 7/25, 8/8, 8/22 and 9/5.
13. Adjournment was at 8:30

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Nazario

The next meeting of the LSC will be **Monday, September 14, 2015**