

Land Stewardship Committee
September 8, 2014
Approved Meeting Minutes

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

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

Excused: G. Goss, D. Bell, A. Greenleaf, M. Brown, D. Segal

Alternate present: D. Clark

Alternate absent:

Staff Absent: Kevin Magee, Environmental Planner

Staff: Michelle C. Nazario, recording secretary

1. Approval of Agenda: B. Johnson made motion to approve agenda and P. Mei seconded, it was unanimously voted.
2. Approval of Minutes: B. Johnson made a motion to approve meeting minutes from July 7, 2014 with changes and seconded by D. Clark, it was unanimously approved
3. Public Forum: Michael Mancini who is from Guilford and a student at Roger Williams has sometime and would like to get involved with the Land Stewardship Committee. He commented on East River Preserve and the Foot Bridge. Michael was wondering if the rocks by the dam have anything to do with the erosion of the bridge and abutment. H. Allore stated that it does need to have some maintenance done and to possibly have the town engineer look at it at some point especially with heavy machinery going across bridge.
4. Chairperson's Report: B. Johnson has no new information to report
5. GCC Liaison Report: M. Brown was not at meeting to report
6. Budget, Materials & Supplies: B. Johnson to speak with K. Magee. B. Johnson will draft a budget for 2014-15 and send out and to be discussed at November meeting for approval of commission.
As of now budget for 2014-15 there is approximately \$3,000.00 minus the \$900 to mow Braemore.
H. Allore reported at East River Preserve A&W will fill holes, but will this becoming out of our budget account and how much.
H. Allore also reported she moved supplies and staged stations at Timberland. She will also send an update inventory list to B. Johnson on material.
D. Clark asked about the rebar at Country Paint and Hardware? B. Johnson replied it is running about \$10.00 a piece. He will get the correct size and some various other sizes as well.
B. Johnson will get weed wacker serviced and get tool fuel. He will also get Round Up for the poison ivy.

7. Volunteer Update: H. Allore has updated volunteer list.

8. Properties

a. Timerland: P. Mei asked if revision of new map has been released? The map is updated in the Kiosk, but hasn't been released yet. The text is not updated. H. Allore reported the old map is up and she access it through the Conservation link from the town web site. B. Johnson to alert K. Magee for it to be updated on the web site for the town. Trail work is good except the erosion on the Orange trail for the steps. B. Johnson to hold work party on Saturday, September 13, 2014 and will meet at the dam. He will draft an email with information for help. He is planning on cutting wood to size and bring down to site. P. Mei suggested that the yellow jackets that are in the ground be dealt with.

H. Allore suggested a community project for the fence to be installed.

H. Allore made suggestions on the interpretive guide project to have historical facts added. The signs can be done possibly by a boy scout? P. Mei suggested the stonewall, the fireplace and twin bridges.

b. Braemore: John Hammerlund was hired to brush hog the field.

A. Greenleaf will help with the blazing on the red trail.

P. Mei spoke with Mary Lou Millet, of Stage Coach, she owns a stable and land of approximately 40 acres which abuts James Valley Preserve. She has an Eagle Scout that lives in Guilford that she would like to refer for a project. P. Mei suggested the bridle trails to be pruned and cut back. The trail starts at Route 77 and goes to Rockland Preserve.

P. Mei briefly explained that the top of Braemore preserve, the horse community usually takes care of the beginning of the triangle/bridle trail. It is approximately 1.5 mile long.

B. Johnson suggested A. Greenleaf and D. Bell maintain the bridle loop along with a representative from the horse community group.

The Dennis Reid Memorial Plaque that was mounted on a fence has fallen off. G. Goss will fix it, put back up and with maintain it accordingly.

H. Allore commented on the Land Trust who maintains the trails in West Woods, which is owned by the trust, the state and private residences. The Land Trust are creating pdf maps of their trails and want to sell them and keep the proceeds for themselves, even though we have connecting trails in Northwood and thru East River Preserve. It has become a touchy topic and poorly representing.

c. James Valley: There is no map or plexus glass in the Kiosk. Materials are needed to have this done. B. Johnson to ask D. Bell to look and assess area. A. Greenleaf also might be available

Lone Pine Trail will be reblazed in October. Jim Fullmer, trail manager reported that it is all pruned. He has also moved some material off the path but some parts will need a chainsaw. Possibility from CFPA to come and do some cutting.

d. Meyer Huber: CFPA to come out and do some chain saw cutting.

e. Northwoods: nothing to report

f. East River Preserve: Anna Pyle will be working on the red trail to get done soon and would like to pair up with a volunteer. G. Goss will finish cleaning up trail at Podunk. P. Mei to finish clean up of Podunk, it's about 200 ft and do the trail marking of a green "x"

H. Allore suggested possibly historical facts that are placed around the trails to inform walkers of what had happened in past at that particular site.

H. Allore stated that the East River Preserve report is on the town web site.

Other business: Doug Clark will be the trail manager for NET as of Wednesday, September 10, 2014. His location is to be determined.

D. Clark will be going to CFPA training on September 20, 2014.

P. Mei to discuss with A. Greenleaf trail managers for position and location to be near the Meyer Huber/George Etzel trails.

P. Mei stated that Chitten Park is a must see. They put in benches and the foot trail is about 1000 ft around and is wheelchair accessible. They are waiting for approval for a Kiosk.

P. Mei stated that the parking lots should be looked at and taken care of before winter comes. H. Allore suggested possible hay bales for the area of the parking lot into the trails to filter the snow melt.

Question was asked if there are any archeological sites in Guilford. H. Allore stated there is the Stone House and Indian Cave at West Woods

B. Johnson is having work parties scheduled every 2 weeks starting 9/13, 9/27, 10/11, 10/25 and 11/8. He will send an email with the locations.

Adjournment: Then, with no further business before it, upon a motion by B. Johnson and seconded by D. Clark it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Nazario

The next meeting of the LSC will be **Monday, November 3, 2014**