

Bedford Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, November 8, 2011 – 7:30pm Bedford DPW Conference Room

Participants

Hal, Mark, Dan, Peter, Michael, Bruce, Tim, Ralph, Yan, Paul, Kristin & Adrienne

Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2011 approved with minor correction. Unanimous.

Discuss change of Committee Chair and Conservation Commission liaison:

Tim Gray was officially voted onto the Trails Committee by the Selectmen on Monday night, November 7th. Paul made a motion to vote Tim Gray as the new chair, seconded by Ralph. Motion approved 6-0-0.

Eagle Service Project

Update on Concord Road kiosk construction: The kiosk has been completed. DPW will take pictures of it for the Annual Report. We need to decide which maps would be appropriate to put on the kiosk.

Chairman's Report

Trail Posts update: Paul reported that Art dropped off the materials at his house. Discussed use of trail posts vs. adding names of conservation area. Yan suggested adding something at the trail where Minnie Reid and Huckins Farm come together to note when you enter and leave the Town land. Also at Altmann where the trail goes to Two Brothers Rocks, at the trail junction. The Committee set a trail post installation day for Sunday, December 4th, 8am at the MCC parking lot. DPW will take care of contacting DigSafe. Mark has leftover spikes he will give to Paul. Reviewed list of entrance posts from 2010 Annual Report. York does not need a post but the new section of Governor Winthrop needs a post. DPW will coordinate with Michael once he does the DigSafe pre-marks.

BCT update on dedication by Selectmen for remainder of trail: Art has contacted Rick Reed; unsure where the process stands.

Bedford TV Conservation cable series update: no update; Art was not in attendance.

Nathan Kimball-North Road access to land update: no update.

Easements/Trail Connections

Review status of trail connections: DPW is moving forward with submitting large plan and spreadsheet with priority list.

Bog Bridges

Old Reservoir: discuss plan for proposed arch bridge; Paul contacted Elizabeth and he will move forward with design for 18 ft bridge.

Springs Brook CA: update from Art on discussion with Elizabeth for next steps to install needed bog bridges. No update from Art. Yan reported that the SBCA steward recommended that the old bridge be replaced which was removed awhile ago. The large existing bridge needs to be moved about 6 feet after the 2010 storm flooding caused shifting. This work should wait for the ground to freeze. New bog bridges needed on the main trail. This work will be proposed in the upcoming Annual Report.

Carlson CA: update on completing effort to relocate bog bridges. Dan reported that there are some bridges along that trail that could still be moved. It would take 3 or 4 people a few hours to move the bridges that need to be moved. Dan is available on Saturday, November 12th, 9am with Ralph, Peter and Bruce. Mark emailed a scout leader from Elizabeth's recommendation but he has not yet heard back.

Massport: Review proposed Trail Improvements map and locations for proposed bog bridges

Elm Brook: review of report from land steward sent by Elizabeth. The bog bridge at Elm Brook that was put on the private part of the trail needs to be moved.

Discuss date for next bog bridge building day: discuss at next meeting.

York still needs a small bog bridge at the path to Wildwood Drive.

Trail Blazing, Mapping & Maintenance

Governor Winthrop: status of new trail and steps to Springs Road; The trail is not yet blazed but has been established. The entrance needs to be marked at Springs Road. Mark needs 4-4x4x8 to build the stairs. Paul will pick up the wood and drop it off at Mark's house.

O'Connor CA parking area: status update. The parking area will be constructed in the next few weeks.

Map boxes: Review Paul's latest sample and discuss plan for bringing to the Conservation Commission for approval: Paul will make a box out of cedar and bring it to Elizabeth for approval by the Commission. The front of the map box will have a reduced size of a trail map and the QR code laminated and attached to the front.

Summary of Land Stewards Field Reports from October and work proposed for Trails Committee. Buehler steward report says the trail map is missing a trail. Wraps from parking lot, follows old carriage trail and goes behind project adventure then comes out on the other side of the pond. Hal can GPS it for us and we'll see about adding it as a brown trail. Lindau Trail map needs the butterfly plot added to the plan.

Status of laminated maps at various kiosks:

Review status of path from Narrow Gauge to Lane School: Ralph and Mark completed this work and it needs blazing.

Massport trail connection from the railroad bed needs maintenance and better blazing. Bog bridges are needed in a few locations where Hal has noted by GPS. We will add proposed bog bridges to the Annual Report for work to be completed in 2012. Some portions of the trail are too wet for bog bridges. Some trails are more appropriate for winter use. DPW will check if the trail map for this area is ready for distribution.

Trail Guide

Review status of Trail Guide: Paul's wife has been writing summaries for the Trails Guide. There are 3 completed and they were sent to Elizabeth. Peter has been rearranging the book format so the page size would work in the layout. Mark confirmed with Peter that clear driving directions will be included.

Annual Report

Discuss plan to collect information for inclusion in the 2011 Annual Report including work completed over the past year and future work desired for 2012. Coordinate with Elizabeth to walk Carleson in the winter for potential boardwalk. Annual report should again include the Carleson boardwalk and also report success of Lane School trail Ralph and Mark completed.

Yan – Clark has no signs. Tim will tell Elizabeth. Eroded trail from Lane School to Pond will need attention. Huckins has not given permission to trap beavers.

Trail Walks & Public Education

December 3rd – Dan Hurwitz

January 7th – Bruce

February 4th – needs a leader

Next meeting, Tuesday, December 13, 2011