

Bedford Trails Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Approved February 17, 2011 meeting minutes.

Attendees – Ralph, Mark, Hal, Michael, Dan, Peter, Art, Paul, Yan, Bruce, Kristin, & Adrienne

Art – Chairman's Report

Bay Circuit Trail update: There is now a trail through the city of Lowell which will include a walk along the Merrimack to where it joins the Concord river. Concord river greenway has been completed. This will be an exciting new link.

Governor Winthrop still on hold until the snow is gone.

Area A & B/Massport Trail update: Agreement reached with Massport. The existing trails will be cleaned up when the snow is gone. There is just one small piece of new trail and Massport will handle getting it ready. If bog bridges are needed, it will have to be coordinated with Massport but they will be made according to our spec. Access will be established from Concord Road near the town line just beyond Parker Road. The fence will be removed and emergency vehicles will have access.

Promote trail use & availability: Town meeting presentation still needs to be set up. Art will meet with DPW to put presentation together prior to March 28th. There has been lots of positive feedback on the trail maps online and the annual report.

Trail Posts: Paul will assist Art with getting them ready. Dig Safe will need to be contacted prior to diggings. Mark has stakes to give Art.

Easements/Trail Connections

Review potential for proposed trail easement across 245 Davis Road if property is sold or developed. Art will coordinate with Ralph and contact the new owners.

Review status of research for trail connection from North Road to Narrow Gauge Rail Trail via 381A North Road (Carignan) and/or 461A North Road (Kimball). Art will contact the family about a potential easement.

Discussed the existing vacant lots on either side of Alcott Street and the connection that could be made between the new Lantern Lane Conservation Area and Springs Brook Park. Paul and Art will talk to Charlie Spidle. Also discussed potential for connection between Carlton Willard and Springs Brook Park. Carlton Willard is still working on changing the conservation restriction. There would also be a trail to Old Stagecoach Road.

Annual Report

Annual Report and request for approval of bog bridges at Old Reservoir and Carlson to be presented at the Conservation Commission hearing on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 7:45pm.

Bog Bridges

Review information from Holden DPW on their arched bridge design, including slideshow of construction pictures.

Trail Blazing & Mapping

O'Connor CA: Selectmen determined that a parking area on Noreen Drive is not needed at this time. Continued public hearing is set for Wednesday, March 9th at 8:15pm following the review of the Annual Report. We will need to set up time to blaze new trail once approved.

Trail map review: Mark completed corrections to blazing at Altmann.

Per Elizabeth, blue trails at Huckins Farm (shown on updated West Bedford Regional Trail Map) may need blazing. If so, we need to contact Huckins Farm to tell them the Trails Committee will be blazing. Yan will review the blazing needs and compare to the West Bedford Regional Trail Map.

Bruce reported that there is a new trail on the Billerica side of the Mill Brook Tributary off of Dudley Road.

Yan has a list of Land Stewards for each conservation area. The new steward for Wilderness Park may be a good option for the new Lantern Lane Conservation Area.

Trail Guide

Peter has been working on page layouts and Tim Grey and Lori Eggert continue to work on writing descriptions. Peter is also in contact with Servicepoint for pricing estimates.

Trail Walks & Public Education

March 5th – Michael Barbehenn (Bay Circuit Trail from Fawn Lake to MCC)

April 2nd – Dan Hurwitz (Old Reservoir)

May 7th – needs a leader

Next meeting, Tuesday, April 12, 2011