

Copp Family Park Board of Overseers
7:00 PM Wednesday, May 7, 2014
(Immediately following the Groton Parks Foundation meeting)
Spicer House, Noank
Minutes

- I. Call to Order – 1957 hrs (7:57 PM)
Members Present – Chairman Neil Brown, Andy Halsey, Jim Sherrard, Allyn Copp, Domenic Venditti, and Alternate Member Ray Munn.

Also present was Mark Berry (P&R Director).
- II. Citizen’s Petitions, Comments and Concerns
None
- III. Secretary's Report
- IV. Approval of Minutes – September 4, 2013
Distributed earlier. No comments, approved unanimously as written.
- V. Committee Reports:
 - a. Election of Officers
The current slate of officers was re-elected unanimously.
 - b. Project Tracking - Andy Halsey
No report beyond the status reports for the trail development described in the GPF meeting minutes. Consensus showed concern for the timetable of project payment and reimbursement via the Town was reemphasized, given the payment history noticed at the GPF meeting re the time lag in the second payment to K&F. Consensus was made that the Town Manager would be notified of the key dates for project payments. Brown and Sherrard will draft a letter to that effect to the Town Manager.
 - c. Government Liaison - James Sherrard
Plan of Conservation and Development – the Decadal revision is now nearing draft completion. Sherrard and Munn will write up a paragraph describing the vision for the Copp Property
 - d. Nominating - Allyn Copp
Nominating Committee (by Copp) – no action. Attributes for potential new members might be in the area of Marketing. The question of increasing the size of the board was re-introduced, but the consensus. Copp and the Nom Committee will investigate potential members.
 - e. Budget - Dom Venditti

Venditti described the process for grant funding through the State Legislature, now expected to increase by approximately \$1M next year. Eligibility criteria for grants are substantially met by Copp projects. Scoring for grant project success is included in the handout. Project examples were distributed to members. By example, Ledyard's portion of the Tri-Town Trail and Groton's Trolley Trail were highlighted. Venditti distributed information re State grant criteria and awards, as well as citation of www.walkct.org/walks/copp-property. Venditti noted that our area of the State, including the Tri-Town Trail, does not have a lot of attention, including trail citation, from the State. Sherrard commented that the SE CT Council of Governments just surpassed the 200,000 resident thresholds for increased availability of grant funding.

VI. Old Business:

a. Groton Utilities Signage

Five "No Trespassing" signs were placed near or at the water's edge by GU.

b. Town-Wide Signage

Berry noted that the Groton Trails Task Force has endorsed a standard trail sign format for the trails of the various trail sponsors. Several of the standardized trail signs have been placed

c. Event Field Status

Berry reported that two mowings were done using 86 hrs, and 49 hours were expended with equipment for clearing in 2014.

d. Trail Improvement Status

Reported in the GPF meeting minutes.

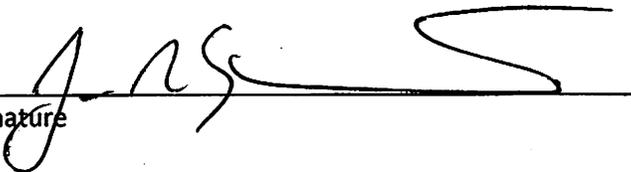
VII. New Business

Brown reiterated the level of activity in the Copp Property business and suggested that more frequent meetings by e-mail might serve us well. Brown will discuss the possibility of this with Janney.

VIII. Adjournment at 2108

Moved by Copp, seconded by Sherrard, approved unanimously.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.

Signature 

Date 9/3/14