

Trails Coordinating Task Force

Thursday, June 25, 2015

4:00 PM Groton Senior Center

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

4:03 PM called to order

II. Attendance

Members in Attendance: Debbie Marshall-Baker, Neil Brown, Bruce Mc Dermott, Joellen Anderson, Bea Reynolds, Joan Smith

Alternates in Attendance:

Members Absent:

Guests in Attendance:

III. Citizen's Petitions, Comments and Concerns

None

IV. Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2015

Correction by Neil – Item 6. Reported Avalonia Norway Maples are being removed at Towns end.

Bruce motioned to accept. Joellen seconded to approve the minutes. Joan Smith abstained. Motion approved.

V. Correspondence/Communication

Mark - exchanged emails with Ray Valentine regarding signs on swing gate on Mumford Cove. Ray confirmed signs don't belong on swing gate and asked Mumford Cove to remove them a couple of weeks ago. If anyone sees signs still on fence, let Mark know.

Bea (?) - There are some people in Mumford Cove who are unhappy with limited access and locked gates.

VI. Reports

A. Avalonia

Joellen – lot of prep work done on trails. A volunteer in Avalonia maintains stewardship, has 683 hours to date 2015. Some Moore

Woodlands and Towns Ends trails have tree I.D. signs (42 in Groton) on trees.

Partnering with several other groups to present "Brunswick" on Sat., at 1:30 , at Mystic Art Cinemas. Film at 2 PM followed by Q&A.

Connecticut Forest and Parks – stewardship coordination program in Rock Fall CT on Saturday.

B. Copp Property

Neil – called Rick and gave background on makeup of overseers. Established Groton Parks Foundation to bring in more input and people. Trail project is, spun parallel with event field is almost complete. Working on foundation for bridge. Should be done in next 3-4 weeks. Waiting for annual spring walk at 12:45 PM next Wednesday. Chad Frost to attend, one board member is unhappy with 14' wide trail. There had been a lot of concern during design – necessary to meet multi-use/handicapped accessible/Grade limitation.

C. Cross Town Trail

Sydney – See attached summary report of the National Trails Day. Cross Town Trails had 49 people and 6 leaders – had folks from all over the State. Saturday & Sunday – Sheep Farm – 25 hikers and 4 leaders. Avery Farm – 17 hikers. Refreshments provided at end of hike. Bus support from Parks and Recreation (2 runs). Interest from some groups on doing just part of it. Picture of Bridge: 16 guys from Subbase hauled it down from tank to cow slip – done in ½ hour! Then they did lopping.

D. GOSA

No Report

E. Town Trails

Interviews: 3 consultants for plan for bikeway from Depot Road to Thomas Road. Won't be able to widen bridge, but using DOT guidelines, can narrow travel area to provide a bike lane. Mostly signage and striping. Will be negotiating a contract. First step: Public Meeting. Who are users; form follows function.

F. TriTown Trails

Bea – Town assessor had figures for land owners from D.O.W. Ledyard Town Council approved it finally in the past week. (2 month approval process). Responses due July 31. 1 ½ yrs left on grant. Still have to assess for historic, DEEP, etc. Process started in 2007! \$50,000 approved to pay for easement – gives a tax break.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Trail Information Event

Joellen has been working with Cindy – spoke to her over the last month.

Spring of 2016 is present goal date. March? Carol (works next to Cindy) – has active senior week is coming up in September.

Still looking for volunteers to lead walks (20 campers from summer program on three (3) separate days: July 16 (William Seely 9:30 – 11:30 AM) July 30 (SB Butler 9:30 – 11:30 AM), and August 6 (Claude Chester 9:30 – 11:30 AM). All these dates are Thursdays. A bus to bring them to and from the hike sites with 2-3 councilors. Bea & Joan can do the 1th, Bruce can do the 30th (Pequot Woods to Moore Property) – 4th – 6th graders.

B. Advocacy Projects

None

C. Norcross Wildlife Foundation Grant

Mark has started to fill it out. Requested Letter of Determination from IRS (60-90 days). Once we have it, we can submit a grant request to the Groton Parks Foundation to print brochures.

VIII. New Business

(not sure if this is the correct part of the Agenda to include) Question on is there outreach for Groton like there is for Ledyard? Yes – Senior Center had tour on Groton Utility property. Have two more scheduled.

IX. Next meeting – September 24, 2015, 4 pm Groton Senior Center

X. Adjournment

Minutes have been approved and accepted.



Signature

10/22/15

Date