

## HARWICH TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 17, 2015

Present: D. Callagan, M. Cushing, J. Follas, B. Nightingale, R. Saulnier, G. Schumann, W. Stone

Absent: C. Berg, A. Peterson

- I. Matt called the meeting to order at 3:45 in the town hall library.
- II. Minutes: Collective report of committee activity from December 2014 to June 2015 was approved. (Four meetings were canceled due to impassable trails and there was no quorum present for the other three. No business was conducted.) Minutes of the July 16, 2015 were approved with corrections changing the pronoun "I" to "we" where necessary. Matt, Wayne and Gerie met in August and because we did not have a quorum, no business was conducted.

Consequently, we then discussed committee attendance and missing representation from both planning board, conservation commission and selectmen. Jannell Brown is our recently appointed selectman and will be notified of our meetings in the future. Her email is [loveharwich@gmail.com](mailto:loveharwich@gmail.com). Alan Peterson, our planning board rep, has attended infrequently. We have no rep from conservation which is a major problem. We hereby request an immediate appointment from that body. It is impossible to make headway without their input and support. Having met with Sandy Robinson, Gerie informed committee of time left on terms and other necessary procedures pertaining to committee membership. Sandy was very helpful. She also indicated that Patrick Brophy was interested in serving on TC.

Bruce produced a copy of the TC purpose and charge and John will scan and provide copies to all members. They will be shared with our selectman and board appointees.

- III. Old Business: Stewardship
  - A. Island Pond: Matt reported trails in good shape and that he has posted a few additional directional signs. Dave would like to see easement between town and Hacker portions legalized so there is no dispute in the future.
  - B. Bell's Neck: Wayne reported bad erosion issues due to ATV abuse and illegal brush dumping in most areas. We need those surveillance cameras. CC should fund. Amy, can you get the ear of the new police chief? Wayne regrets the presence of horse manure and the disrespect of some riders. Would like to have diapers used. Deposits contain non-native seeds. Town owned bog paths need mowing. More boulders are needed at trail entrances off BN Road. Amy, please request.
  - C. Sand Pond: John reported trail in good shape and suggested one addition sign at the crossroads near the end of the trail directing walkers to the parking lot. Gerie noted that abutters on the west side have had complaints about night activity in the parking lot and have reported same to the police. The couple Toni and Maurice, continue to help steward the area, picking up trash left in the parking lot, etc. They would like to be informed of trail committee activities and serve on the committee but both work. When the town did not act, they also planted a row of Leyland cypress on their property

to shield them from headlights and provide privacy. John asked about trail guides for the area. There is no map or box. Mike Lach reported that HCT is hoping to print a new edition of the guide in the spring which will include Sand Pond. Thank you.

- D. Thompson's Field: Trails are good and litter is not a problem. The narrow trail in the south lot off Chatham Road is very narrow and overgrown, but that will improve when the field is mowed. Dog walkers seem more and more responsible about picking up. HOWEVER, Gerie discovered at the writing of these minutes that the poop bag dispenser AT Chatham Road lot has been damaged and needs to be replaced. She managed to put replacement bags in but the box no longer locks. Help! WHO DOES THAT? Gerie thanked Amy and DPW for tidying up the 39 lot and moving the poop bag container and trash barrel out of the field. Amy notified us that she would like to be on our October agenda to discuss TF management plan.
- E. Teixeira: Bruce said there had been some trash in the lot and that he shored up the old kiosk as best he could with rocks. Dave spent a good deal of time with the Newcomers woodworking group on design of a new kiosk which the group agreed to build with our funds. Seems we no longer have the funds we thought we had even though we have not spent any money! Matt was finally told after a wild goose chase that our account contains \$364.73. What IS our account number? We need at minimum \$800.00 to construct the kiosk. Motion to request balance of funds from the conservation commission carried.

#### IV. New Business

Matt's request to resign as chair of this committee was not accepted. A motion was made and carried that we as committee members would offer more support and correct attendance issues and pursue conservation and selectman appointees.

Next meeting: October 15 in the library at town hall at 3:45 sharp! We have a lot to do. We hope Ms. Brown and Amy as well as newly appointed person for CC will be there.

PLEASE LET MATT KNOW IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND!

Gerie Schumann, Clerk