

Town of Harwich Trails Committee Minutes

September 9, 2016

Present: M. Cushing, Liz Dubuque, Ron Rich, R. Saulnier, G. Schumann, W. Stone, A. Usowski

Absent: D. Callaghan, J. Follas, J. Brown

- I. Matt Cushing called the meeting to order at 3:45 in the town hall library.
- II. New members, Liz Dubuque and Ron Rich, soon to be sworn in, were introduced and we heartily approved of their qualifications.* Contact information below. It should be noted that TC still needs representation from conservation and planning boards.
- III. Minutes of July and August to be approved at the October 20 meeting.
- IV. Old Business: Stewardship
 - A. Bell's Neck: Wayne reported habitual dumping of kitty litter in a single car parking area on Bell's Neck Road a camera is needed. Ron inquired about the fragmite growth in the reservoirs. Amy said they would try to keep it under control in the west reservoir but that the east reservoir was beyond help. Amy reported a meeting to take place on 9/26 regarding the study to be conducted about the future of the town cranberry bogs which are no longer being maintained by the lessee. Due to the dry conditions there are concerns about fire and Wayne would like to see additional signage re smoking on the trails.
 - B. Texeira: AmeriCorps possibly available at the end of October to reroute the southern leg of the trail to eliminate the steep steps. The Eagle Scout building the kiosk hopes to have it completed this fall. He raised the funds for the project and does not need TC money. Gerie offered to walk the property with new members.
 - C. Thompson's Field: We continue to make regular checks and remind dog walkers of the rules, especially removing solid waste, leashing dogs that are not under voice control, and carrying a leash in case needed. Parking lot/native plant garden on Chatham Road has needed constant care to keep it going in the drought conditions. Kudos to the garden club team for its efforts.
 - D. Sand Pond: Walked trail with new member Ron Rich and pruned back a fair amount of cat briar. Also spray painted roots stumps in trail. Trail in good shape. HCT has a volunteer building additional trail guide boxes missing from some of the kiosks.
- V. New Business:
 - A. New edition of the trail guides arrived. Includes Sand Pond and LOOP around the reservoir. Gerie to continue to fill boxes and post notices. Consider funding HCT in part for the trail guides.
 - B. TC Budget: Matt and Amy to get together on paperwork for budget request to include on-going expenses such as signage, trash bags, surveillance cameras, replacement locks and kiosk repairs.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at 4:45. NEXT MEETING ON OCTOBER 20, 2016. Please come so we can approved three months' worth of minutes and record them as required!

Gerie Schumann, Clerk

approved 10/20/16