

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Attendance: Conservation Commission members: Dena Desena, Dick Bauman, John Planinsek, Judith Dooley, John Marchewka, Marti Blair; Town Planner Maureen O'Meara; Town Council Liaison Jessica Sullivan; Citizen Zach Matzkin.

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.
2. October 2010 Draft minutes will be reviewed at the December meeting.
3. Conservation Commission Rules of Procedure (CCRP)
The CCRP was passed by the Town Council at its last meeting.
4. Misc. Trail Improvement Projects
 - *Whale Back Trail*: Public Works removed shrubs and installed a stone dust path at the trail's entrance. CC discussed adding stone dust entrances to all new trails and some of the more utilized trails to increase visibility to residents and other users.
 - *Gull Crest Trail*: Dena scraped and painted one half of the metal bridge, which was showing significant signs of weathering and rust. Both Dick and Dena indicated that a 20-30 ft section leading up to the bridge is very rutted and muddy and is in need of attention. John P. indicated that this month's trail walk would be a good opportunity for CC members to view the trail and bridge, and develop a plan for fixing the muddy section.
 - *Winnick Woods*: Scott Townsend of the Maine Mountain Bike Association (MEMBA) who was not present at the meeting asked Maureen if MEMBA could build a boardwalk over a wet area. The boardwalk would be the same design as the previous "three board wide" boardwalks completed at Winnick Woods. Mr. Townsend indicated that MEMBA would provide the labor if the CC purchased and delivered the materials necessary for construction of the boardwalk. The CC discussed its existing budget and probable costs for material purchase. A motion was made to purchase the materials and authorize MEMBA to construct the boardwalk. Motion was seconded and approved by the CC.
 - *Two Lights Trail*: CC members discussed the need to trim portions of the two lights trail due to the trails wet nature and heavy vegetative growth.
5. Annual Maintenance Plan
Maureen indicated that she met with the Town Manager and Public Works Director regarding trail maintenance. Public Works agrees to perform certain maintenance items, such as removal of large (fallen) trees, and limited mowing and clearing. There is a possibility that a part time maintenance person will be available for some trail work in the future, however a decision about the Town hiring someone has not been made, nor has there been definitive discussions regarding how much of the person's time would be spent on trail maintenance vs.

time spent on other Town projects. CC members discussed various scenarios related to trail maintenance needs and the time that would be necessary to keep the existing trail systems passable. It was agreed that a considerable amount of time would be needed to adequately maintain the existing trail systems, well beyond the capability of CC members.

6. Planning Board Agenda Items

Agenda reviewed and no comments from the CC this month.

7. Maureen suggested that a meeting be held to review how the new Great Pond boat rack system worked after the first year of use.

8. Monthly Trail Walk

CC's monthly trail walk will be held on Saturday December 4th at 8:00am. The trail walk will be at Gull Crest Trail to view the metal bridge and muddy area next to bridge. Meet at Nordic Ski Kiosk.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.