

Conservation Commission Minutes  
April 12, 2016

Present: Jim Tasse, Zach Matzkin, Mark Fleming, Jeremy Gabrielson, Marti Blair, Councilor Jessica Sullivan, Planner Maureen O'Meara

Guest: Kelly Strout

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Citizen comments on items not on the agenda. None.
2. The minutes of March 7, 2016 April 6, 2016 were approved unanimously. The minutes for March 7 were revised to read "dogs to be leashed" in line 8 of item #3.
3. Horses on Greenbelt Trails. Kelly Strout requested that whenever trail work is being done or bridges are being maintained, that the Commission consider building to specifications that can support horses. The short bridge spans at Great Pond are suitable for horses. The current bridge by the Malley's is not available to horses, that is a pedestrian only easement. She would like to see an access to Gull Crest from the Great Pond area and make a loop. Now the access is through the high school parking lot to the end of Starboard Drive, and down the road.

Jessica Sullivan stated that the intent five years ago was to provide trail opportunities for horses.

The horse community is willing to help shore up trails and keep them safe for horses.

There was discussion of improving the trails in the Town Farm/ Spurwink Road area.

It was suggested that a trail could potentially skirt the school campus.

The Commission would like to work on an inventory of the trails used by horses including areas needing hardening and bridging improvements, and also look at expanding access between Starboard and the Town Farm and between Great Pond and the south end of Gull Crest.

Not all the short bridge spans at Great Pond are suitable for horses. A civil engineer has reviewed the bridges and found only one that is suitable for use by horses.

4. CTT sign installation. Cindy Krum suggested April 28, April 30, May 2, May 4 as dates to put up trail disks. The Planner will send out the dates tomorrow. The Planner will write an article about the effort.
5. Cottage Brook to Ocean House Road trails site visit. The landowner is available April 22, April 23, and April 28, all at 5:00 p.m. The Planner is coordinating with the interested parties.
6. Pollack Creek to the Spurwink River report. This will be added to next month's agenda.

7. Dyer Woods to Oakhurst. A meeting should be scheduled in the fall with the landowners and residents.

8. Executive Session. At 8:22 the Conservation Commission voted to go into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition/disposition. At 8:55 the Executive Session ended.

9. Winnick Woods trails. There was discussion of the need for additional blazing, and correct mapping of the yellow trail.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Next meeting: May 4, 2016