

Cape Elizabeth Conservation Commission minutes
June 10, 2014

Present: Garvin Donegan, Zach Matzkin, Dick Bauman, Jim Tasse, Mitch Wacksman, John Planinsek, Town Planner Maureen O'Meara

No citizens were present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07. The April 8, 2014 minutes were approved.

1. Discussion of Middle School possible projects. The commission asked if the projects would be done in the summer or fall? Mitch recalls that the work list was wanted starting in September. Mitch likes the list. Dick noted it is what we talked about. John suggested that they could also do some clipping. Zach noted that the CC prefers to meet with a group requesting to help first, and agreement exists that that is a good rule. CC member supervision is discussed as important for these kinds of efforts. This group does work with the Land Trust, too. The commission mentions that at least two weeks notice is needed to identify a project and a supervisor. Jay Cox has expressed some willingness to be a trail work supervisor if invasive vines are removed. The commission discussed rogue paint markings on private property and Winnick Woods that had not been placed by the town. Mitch moved to approve the project list, with a second by Dick, unanimously approved.

2. Temporary Trail closures. The commission received a status report from staff and trails are reopened. There was discussion and agreement that the closure was successful. The commission discussed and agreed to send a thank you to the closure list serve for their compliance with the closure.

The commission discussed adding gravel to previously approved areas in Gull Crest. A commissioner would need to meet Brendan on Gull Crest outer loop near the board walk. The commission made a motion to approve a request to pay DPW to put some gravel on textile fabric, out on Gull Crest Outer Loop, both above and below boardwalk, extending and replenishing where gravel has been previously put down to minimize impact on the trail corridor. There was unanimous approval for the motion.

3. 2014 Greenbelt Plan Priorities:

- Robinson Woods II trails construction 7:32 Mitch and Jim met with Chris Franklin to discuss new Robinson Woods II trail. Jim and Mitch express some reservations about the current state of the construction effort – very wide, no

defined treadway, poor design. There was a status update on the CELT Robinson Woods II permitting with DEP. The commission agreed to send a letter to document that the meeting happened, and that we want to be involved with the design of the uncompleted sections. Staff is directed to draft a letter for the commission chair to review and sign.

- Signage: Winnick pilot project 7:56 The commission discussed the color coded trail marking project, Updated maps are in process. Blazes will be the subject of trail of the month trail column.

- Winnick to Eastman connections 8:03 The commission discussed possible new connection between Eastman trails and Winnick's via beaver pond. Discussion of a trail walk at Eastman trails on July 15 at 6-7:30pm. Wear boots.

- Town Center Trail/Vinnie's Trail 8:21: Zach is taking lead on Vinnie's Walk trail, which connects with Town Center trail. They would like to post a sign on town land identifying the trail. Discussion of parking. Discussion of possible relocation of trail onto a different easement. Motion is made and passed to begin process to move trail.

- MNRPC 2014 proposals 8:31. Garvin described the program and asked if a possible application should be prepared. It would need to be restoration type project. Last year's application did not even get past the letter of intent process. Garvin suggests possible restoration on Trout Brook, perhaps an agricultural project to strengthen relations between farming community in CE and CC. Maureen suggested that there aren't many degraded wetlands to mitigate in CE. Jim suggests passing on this grant opportunity, as we don't have a good project in mind. We should notify other towns of the opportunity.

- Other trail work. 8:43 The commission discussed stone steps at Great Pond. Dick says we should get some experts to look at the steps to estimate cost. Discussion of cost – let's not spend over \$3000 on the steps. Jim says he will touch base with Jaime Parker again to consult.

Other projects included possibly formalizing access to Canterbury and trail work on the Cross Hill East Trail improvement, proposed for October.

4. Trail of the Month article. 9:00 article on mapping and blazes.
5. Planning Board Review. 9:02 few items, none require CC comment or review.
6. Monthly Trail walk. 9:05 Trail walk planned for July 15

7. Adjourn meeting. The Conservation will conduct an in-the-field meeting at Eastman trails on July 15.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Tasse