

Conservation Commission Minutes
October 14, 2014

Present: Mitch Wacksman, Zach Matzkin, John Planinsek, Richard Bauman, Garvan Donegan, Marti Blair, Town Planner Maureen O'Meara

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. The minutes of September 9, 2014 were approved unanimously.
2. Robinson Woods II trails construction. A productive trail building day was held with volunteers. The bridge was not completed.
3. Great Pond steps. Maureen met the owner of "Off the Beaten Path," the company that submitted a proposal for construction of stone steps on the Great Pond trail. The bid price is \$19,940, which is outside the budget capabilities of the Conservation Commission.

The Planner will approach the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust, who owns the property, to ask for participation in paying for the steps.

4. Winnicks/Cross Hill to Eastman connections. The Planner visited the site, but could not find a location for a trail connection that would not involve crossing wetlands. It may require a State permit. Another site visit will be planned, to determine the nature of the wetland and the type of permitting required.
5. Town Center trail/Vinnie's Trail. The trail is flat, wide, firm, with perhaps a couple of spots needing fill. A bollard will be installed near the high school, and signage is needed. To be accessible by people with mobility issues, the surface would need to be leveled and compacted, and then maintained.

Trail walk: Tuesday, October 21, 5:15, meet at Starboard Drive end of trail.

6. Gull Crest boardwalk extension. L.P. Murray submitted a bid in the amount of \$8220 to install a third board to the 1220 feet of existing boardwalk and add 400 feet of new 3-plank boardwalk. The Planner will ask for a proposal on just the additional 400 feet.

7. Encroachments.

Grover Road off Fowler Road – the owners were sent a letter asking them to remove the yellow clothesline and trampoline.

Leighton Farms Road – the landowner we worked with before has left the land alone and the trees are alive. The owner at 39 Wells Road was sent a letter requesting that they stop treating the public land like part of their yard, and now the property is for sale. The Planner recommends

that we remove the forsythia plantings and install a rustic fence along the property line, which would cost \$3000.

Motion: To approve installation of a fence along the public property line off Leighton Farms Road; to remove the forsythia bushes along the road; to install signage; to install a path from Leighton Farms Road to the pond.

Passed unanimously

Trout Brook at the Cape Elizabeth, South Portland line on Route 77 – there is a new building with a crushed stone driveway which is eroding, with a silt fence, which is causing runnels and sending runoff into the brook. The Planner will contact South Portland.

Eastman Road, towards the golf course from Eastman Meadows, someone is dumping grass clippings into the little feeder brook.

Dyer Woods – property owner in the Blueberry Woods subdivision is mowing into the woods.

Cottage Brook – property owner is encroaching.

8. Trail of the month article. The Planner will prepare an article for the Cape Courier.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Next meeting: November 10, 2014