

Land Stewardship Committee Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2010, 4:00 PM
Acton Town Hall

Present: Bettina Abe, Tom Arnold, Peggy Liversidge (minute-taker), Nan Towle Millett, Ann Shubert, Jim Snyder-Grant (chair), Tom Tidman,

Minutes: The June meeting minutes were approved.

August meeting?: Jim will be away on the third Wednesday of August, so there will be no meeting next month.

New access trail to Great Hill: Dean Charter and Tom T. have informed us of plans to cut a trail to the 8 Piper Lane property, off School Street, which was purchased by the Town in 2008, by way of the 6 Piper Road property, which was bought this year to allow access to the other property. Dean has requested that stewards then plan and cut a new access trail from 8 Piper Lane to the long red trail that runs from the playing fields to the yellow trail in the southeastern portion of the parcel. Tom A. volunteered, and Jim said he will ask Philip Keyes to help him.

Parcel reports: *Canoe launch:* Bettina and Jim have weed-whacked the Japanese knotweed again. *Pacy:* Jim reported that Eagle Scout Forrest Gill has completed the Pacy Land kiosk at the Tupelo Way entrance. *Stonemyede:* It was reported that Bob Guba has noted that the sign at the property's border with Concord needs repainting.

Hybrid Farm: Tom A. brought up the Hybrid Farm lease, which he has recently taken a look at. Although it was agreed that this committee has no authority to deal with this situation, it was suggested that, because of our interest in the farm's impact on the Nagog Hill land, Tom A. and Tom T. get together with the McConnors for an initial discussion of the lease, which needs to be renegotiated and updated.

Ace Hardware and Littleton Lumber accounts: Tom T. has set up an account for items needed at these two stores for committee projects. Committee members authorized to use this account are Bettina Abe, Bob Guba, Philip Keyes, Jim Snyder-Grant, and Laurie Ullmann. A purchase order number must be used.

Fort Pond Brook Greenbelt signs: Bob Guba and Josh Haines have brought to the committee's attention three signs affixed to parcel name posts that read "Fort Pond Brook Greenbelt." Two are at Guggins (one at the parking lot on Rt. 111 and one at the Central Street entrance) and one was at Jenks (at the parking lot along Central Street) until Bob removed it because it was deteriorating. Bob has stated that there is no official Fort Pond Brook Greenbelt and that he thinks all of these signs should be removed. It was decided that we will leave the remaining two signs for now since it is the Conservation Commission's province to decide what should be done with them.

Meeting agenda postings: Jim noted that, in order to comply with the Open Meeting Law, meeting agendas in the future must be submitted to the Town Clerk at least 48 business hours prior to all Town committee meetings. He asked for a volunteer to check in with him about the agenda and submit it each month. Peggy volunteered to do this.

Kiosk notices: Two nonsteward volunteers, Barbara Dane and JB Sweeney, have surveyed all of our kiosks to determine the status (okay, faded, or missing) of various notices that should be posted on all kiosks. These are the parcel's trail map, in color; a description of the blazing system; parcel information, which is the same for all parcels except for the header, which includes the specific parcel name; conservation land regulations; Lyme disease/tick information; a guidebook advertisement; and information about the current photo contest. Jim now has a count of how many of the various notices are needed and where. These still need to be laminated. Before doing this for the blazing system description and the parcel information, however, he plans to send them out for comments and possible revisions.

Guidebooks: Jim now has a DVD from Lynn Horsky containing the electronic version of the 2003 guidebook.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15. There will be no August meeting.