

# HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Land Stewardship Subcommittee

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**June 19, 2018**

**Present:** Wendy Sisson, Jim Adelson, Brian McClain, Carl Sciple, Sydney Blackwell

**Not Present:** Jim Burns, Pam Durrant, Phil Knoettner

Wendy Sisson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. at the Hildreth House

Minutes from the previous meeting (5/15/18), as prepared by Jim A, were approved

### Parking for conservation properties

- Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary – Brian will make a sketch, since we're going to ask DPW to grade it differently
- Williams – It's dry now, but sometimes wet; Wendy will draw up a plan with DPW
- Clapp-Scorgie – John Lee to develop a plan
- Holy Hill – Ask DPW to manage gravel piles and ragged edges of the parking area
- Sprague – Jim A asked about its condition, from experience there a long time ago; Carl to ask Trail Steward Wade Holtzman to check

### Property reports

- Barba's Point – Sydney had observed, and hadn't seen very much evidence of teen activity, litter, or disturbance
- Clapp-Scorgie/Hosking's Point – fire-pit has been used; we will monitor and remove trash; t history of activity here and defacement of the conservation signs that have been posted
- Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary
  - Wendy and Brian worked there last weekend (incl. removal of narrow-leaf bittercress and black swallowwort)
  - There had been an encroachment there a few years ago; Wendy and Brian still saw evidence of things that shouldn't be done, like herbicide application, and spoke to the landowner; a restoration plan will be needed. Wendy and Kevin returned Tuesday and pulled two large bags of bittercress from this disturbed area.
- Hoch
  - Sydney to evaluate the need for clearing at the entry (has had thick poison ivy in the past)
  - Sydney also indicated that there were three trees down, which she needed to put in the log

Stewards and Neighborhood Trailkeeper groups – Carl has some updates for the list, which he'll either put in the log or send to Jim A to enter (note: Carl reported 6/21 that he wanted to do some consolidating of the list, and thought that it would probably take a couple of weeks for him to get to it)

### Trail Status Log

- We need to put reports in the Log, even if a trail is clear

- Wendy has some additional updates that she needs to put in the log – Bare Hill, Hermann Orchards

#### Early mowing

- Clapp-Scorgie and Turner Lane fields had been mowed 6/19
- DPW did Millie's Path, the Prospect Hill Road entrance to Prospect Hill, and around the Williams parking
- This week several areas at Holy Hill – the poison ivy field, the white birch field, and the Shaker reservoir will be mowed plus the path through the field at Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary

Potential later summer work on Hermann Orchard/Bridal Way, Case (Brian), and Shaker Reservoir signage (Wendy)

#### Holy Hill Dancing Ground fence repairs

- CPC funds will be sought for this project
- Conservation Commission (LSS) and Historical Commission to work together to formulate a proposal
- Wendy would like a nice bench there as well
- Wendy's friend Kevin to redo the rotted sign backs and posts
- Joe Theriault notified us 6/21 that he's currently too busy to participate; we need to get an estimate to restore low fence and repair a slat of high fence.

#### Black Pond/Smith Land/Sudbury Valley Trustees

- Active development of trails starting from the Littleton side has begun
- SVT hasn't included Harvard Conservation on this activity yet; Concom meets with SVT 7/19 to discuss
- Wendy to communicate that we'll want them to take additional responsibility for coming to ConCom and with trail development and maintenance; will develop a joint plan for management
- Wendy mentioned likely bear habitat in the area to avoid
- Site walk planned for 7/10 @9 AM or with Concom, Sunday 7/15 @ 2 PM

Next meeting August 28<sup>th</sup> (to skip July based on scheduling)

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM