

HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Land Stewardship Subcommittee

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 23, 2021

Present: Wendy Sisson, Peter von Conta, Jim Adelson, Rob Traver

Wendy Sisson called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM as a virtual meeting (recorded)

Minutes from the 1/26/21 meeting, as drafted by Jim Adelson, were approved

Boardwalk design

- Peter had drafted a drawing to explain boardwalk construction to those creating boardwalks, whether LSS members and trail stewards, or others such as Scouts
- In the meeting, others offered a few small to moderate changes, from adding installation instructions to wording choices to typo corrections (in the days after the meeting, Peter has made revisions and there have been some additional suggestions)
- Wendy said she wanted to look at some designs in other towns, mentioning Boxborough specifically

Holy Hill sign at the parking lot on South Shaker Road

- The sign had rotted out in the back
- Wendy had repaired it, but when she went to remount it on 2/23, she couldn't due to the posts being askew due to plowing
- We may need to reposition the sign for less exposure to plowing

Netflix Filming Crew

- Netflix was looking for a site in Harvard to shoot a film
- The location would have to accommodate the need to build a façade
- The town had suggested the Williams land as a possibility, but Wendy recommended against that location

Peter gave the update that the recent snows have been a barrier to some chainsaw work

It was noted that this will be the year for cicadas (17-year cycle)

Haskell Property – Rob reported that we are waiting to see where this property is in the queue for NRCS help for “repasturizing”

Small Nature Trail

- Robin and Bill Calderwood to become stewards; Brian Noble to assist
- We need to consider whether the middle trail section should be abandoned

Walk Possibilities

- There won't be organized group walks this spring, like we've done in the past; this would just be for the subcommittee

- Locations mentioned
 - o Capobianco (maybe in combination with Sprague, Willard, or others)
 - o Gillette
 - o Tripp
 - o Small Nature Trail

Eagle scout projects – in a holding pattern right now

Kiosk design – Wendy was thinking about some alternate designs

Reblazing Efforts

- Clapp-Scorgie
 - o Peter did a lot of reblazing, but some loops still remain
 - o Jim A said he'd help on the rest, if it was after the snow's gone
- Old Mill – needs reblazing for the new route
- Black Pond/Vesenka needs reblazing in portions

Wendy to ask Chris Ryan about forestry plans and “poor forest management” statement

The next meeting will be March 23rd

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM