

HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Land Stewardship Subcommittee

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 28, 2023

Present: Wendy Sisson, Jim Adelson, Peter von Conta, Brian McClain, Jim Gorss

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

Minutes from the 1/31/23 meeting, as drafted by Jim A and modified by Wendy, were approved unanimously.

Jim Gorss is now an official member, having been approved by the Conservation Commission to replace Rob Traver; Jim A to add Jim G to the Trail Status Log (done 3/1)

Brian volunteered to go to the in-person ethics training 3/14

Jim G cleared large pine branches in front of Dunlap, for a HCT walk scheduled for 3/5

Wendy was invited to discuss wetland permitting for invasive work at the HCT meeting 3/1

Trailcare App – Peter summarized that it's not perfect now, but between Trailcare and the Trail Status Log and word of mouth, things are working reasonably well

Recent chain saw volunteers

- Marc Seigny has been very active
- Peter von Conta has done significant work, but not in the last 6 months
- Jim Burns, particularly for large or complicated efforts
- The chainsaw list in the log is very old
- The Snowmobile Club is very involved in clearing before and during the season where snowmobile trails coincide with Conservation trails on Conservation property

As we head into mud season, a note on it should appear in the *Harvard Press* in the next couple of weeks

Clapp-Scorgie – we need to consider what to do in the area of Clapp Cove that is still muddy after fill put down by snowmobile club last year.

Old Mill

- Jim A had walked the trail on 2/20/23, and presented the plan for trail redesign, and the work that needs to be done
- Peter, Wendy, and Jim G were going to try to remove the fallen pine 3/12 10 AM, and potentially do some of the other work for the trail

Rodriguez

- Get the work on Old Mill done first
- Possibly have a walk there 3/19

Spring Walk

- Jim A presented four possible options
- Wendy suggested adding Willard as another possibility; we'd done a walk there several years ago, but it's such a nice hike
- Delaney South was one of the possible options Jim A included, but Brian said he thought Delaney North was more appealing
- Based on a number of factors, we selected Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary/Bowers Springs, with Jim A and Brian to work on the specific route
- The walk will be Saturday, April 8, at 1:30
- Flyer
 - o Brian to take pictures
 - o Wendy to draft if she can; Jim A to draft if Wendy does not have a chance
- Publicity – the usual approach
 - o Jim to work with the Harvard Press to appear in Events there
 - o Jim to put up physical flyers at the Library, Post Office
 - o Brian to put a note in Nextdoor Harvard
 - o Wendy to inquire about Harvard Conservation Trust emailing
 - o [Note: we didn't talk about the calendar on the Harvard town website or the LSS website page]

Amphibian crossing signs

- Town Hall has taken a long time for a check – a couple months; we're supposed to get it soon
- Wendy to check on status

Next meeting 4/4

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM