

Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority
Minutes, Special Meeting (postponed from 8/7)
8/15/19

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BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

Attending: Ainsley Highman, Chair; Joe Blumberg, Judy Miller, Richard Shanahan, John Tolbert. Jim Boyd, guest.

The meeting began at 7:30 PM at Canoe Brook Center.

1. Warden's Report: no new problems

Several areas along trails need brush cut back. The power tool consisting of power head with brush cutter and hedge trimmer attachments has been purchased from Giant Oak Power Equip.

2. Pisgah Brook/Saltonstall Mountain: ongoing severe damage from heavy ATV use continues.

A rendering of the proposed parking area at the DeLeo meadow has been provided to J. Boyd & Sons for an estimate of cost. Jim Boyd attended and details of the proposal were discussed. He will submit a quote for the project.

3. Supply Ponds: A more detailed plan of repair for Pine Gutter Brook Bridge is needed, once in hand we will go back to Inland Wetlands for approval. Ainsley contacted 2 engineers, they are busy and will get in contact when they have time to visit the site.

Hunter Daros has prepared written plans for a scout project for stone jam diversions in Pine Gutter Brook. The previously completed Millone & McBroom PGB study contains several applicable descriptions with drawings. Ainsley, Pete Daros and Hunter Daros attended the August Inland Wetlands Commission meeting and submitted an application for placement of a stone "jam" in the brook upstream from the bridge. IWC again insisted that an engineer be hired to review the project. This is expected to delay the project due to limited availability of engineers. A site visit by IWC was requested but apparently they are unwilling to do this.

Rich made suggestions for colors to blaze additional trails at Supply Ponds. The consensus was to follow Rich's proposed scheme for the trail colors.

The plank bridge over Queach Brook (yellow trail) is in need of repair. A quote has been received, more details needed. Greg will measure the handrail height to check feasibility of lowering rails so a bike can cross without having to dismount.

4. Beacon Hill: Judy Miller will ask Jay Brown (Cameron Construction) to give a proposal/quote for maintenance of the Pent Rd trail.

5. Quarry/Medlyn: placing fresh crushed rock at Quarry parking lot should be considered. In addition there is a large section near the beginning of the trail from the parking lot which often retains water and could be filled. Don will inquire at the Quarry about obtaining crushed rock.

6. Kaczynski: BLT will be clearing invasive shrubs which are encroaching around the perimeter of the meadow as previously approved by POS.

7. Queach: Contents of kiosk are still pending. There is an eroded area on the steep initial portion of the Queach trail which might benefit from some type of repair. One quote for repair has been received from a contractor. Greg, J.T. and Don will meet at the site to inspect and make recommendations. Site meeting is still to be arranged.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Minutes recorded by Ainsley Highman