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Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority
April 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes
Branford Community House 46 Church Street.
Wes Beeman
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

Richard Shanahan opened the Meeting at 6:03 pm

Present: Wendy Burton, Wes Beeman, Greg Cox, John Tolbert, Matt Reed, Ainsley Highman, Leslie Bernardini, and Richard Shanahan

WARDENS REPORT: John Tolbert reported he cut up many trees and branches that had fallen in storms. Matt Reed removed several overhead hanging trees and branches in several place. He and John discussed various equipment and supplies they will need going forward.

The Brush Cutter has been delivered. Gas and oil needs and storage were discussed

SUPPLY PONDS:

- The Blue Trail has been regraded and graveled, and the stump pulled from the parking area
- We discussed another History Walk and an Interpretive map being made by Jane Dougherty assisted by Leslie Bernardini
- The proposed N. Chestnut St. Trail is on the IWC April agenda
- A request for a Memorial Bench was discussed and we agreed on allowing a tree to be planted. Wendy Burton And Matt Reed will decide on the tree species and location
- Bass and Catfish will be purchased soon and we discussed other varieties of fish as well.
- Ainsley Highman is meeting with a contractor for an estimate on paving the main parking area
- Richard Shanahan needs to discuss with Dept of Public Works – Location of the “No Dumping of Yard Waste” signs, removal of leaf piles and invasive plants along Short rocks Road, locations of boulders on N. Chestnut St., replacement of the new trash bin, paving of the main parking lot, and storage of the brush cutter and supplies.

QUEACH PROPERTY:

- ATV activity was discussed and commission members will keep an eye out.

HILLTOP PRESERVE:

- We discussed the property potential and getting a preliminary survey of boundary. A walk of the property is Set for Sunday April 6th at 2:00pm.

BEACON HILL: Matt Reed and Richard Shanahan cleared a large party area of trash.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:

- The Open Space Facebook page now has 651 followers and is getting messages and traffic on the page.
- Gregory Cox is now an official member of the Open Space Commission
- Line Painting will be completed soon at Supply Ponds, Beacon Hill, and Deleo parking areas
- We discussed the field meeting locations from May – September.

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm.

..EXT MEETING:

Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 6:00 pm. at The Quarry Parking lot on Quarry Road