

Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority

Minutes of September 8, 2021

Attending: Richard Shanahan, Chair; Amy Bartels, Wes Beeman, Judy Miller, John Tolbert, Ainsley Highman and Wendy Burton

The meeting began at 5:45 at Branford Supply Ponds - Meadow Parking Area

Wardens Report:

The request for a Town Radio for Don Kacenski had been submitted. The fire department is in process of replacing the older sets. Don is on the list, but the process will take 1 to 2 months to complete

Supply Ponds:

No activity regarding the encroachment at 5 Hanna Drive. Apparently a "draft letter" to the owner has been written, but not sent. No information as to the contents of the letter or what action will be taken.

The Inland Wetlands Commission has begun the process of looking into the major erosion problem behind Ferndale and Island View Condo's. A formal letter has been sent to the Condo Boards of each Association. Apparently both Boards have responded and will be researching various solutions.

The dredging of the Sed Pond at Pine Gutter Brook was discussed. It was agreed that the it should be done this coming Fall or Winter.

Pine Gutter Brook bridge replacement. No action taken. Waiting for guidance from the Town.

Line Painting and Traffic calming, still waiting for estimates.

Noble Proctor Bench will be delivered by the Branford Dept. of Public Works. Date to be determined.

Supply Pond Meadow. Discussion of the value of meadow habitat available for various birds and insects. Invasive plants and shrubs are encroaching into the meadow and need to be removed.

Discussion into finding a knowledgeable contractor for removal of invasive plants around the shoreline between road and ponds. Richard will call Public Works for suggestions.

Queach:

Metal post from old chain link fence was vandalized. New hole has to be dug and the post needs to be cemented in. Discuss options with D. Kacenski

Boulders still need to be placed on sides of the new gate on the Vigliotti property line.

Pisgah Brook & Saltonstall Mtn.:

Boulders have been placed for northern entrance, Eppes and Queach. Additional work is needed at northern entrance & Eppes property to block new areas of access. The contractor is still recovering from various injuries.

Construction of gates slated for installation at the culvert over Pisgah Brook (bottom of Laurel Hill) and Green Trail past DeLeo field at Pisgah Brook footbridge has begun. Estimated installation dates is mid to late October.

Northford Road kiosk has been installed.

There has been a drastic reduction in ATV and dirt bike traffic but additional work needed to rehab and repair degraded trails.

Beacon Hill:

Land Trust offered to remove sheet metal and remaining garbage in Fall. Dates to be determined.

Dirt bike entrance via Dominican Rd. needs to be investigated to determine if it can be blocked. "No Motor Vehicles" signs need to be posted throughout the area.

Kaczynski:

Criscuolo to provide estimate to pin the northern property line, possible encroachment. No reply yet.

Quarry:

Kiosks at Quarry parking area and Van Wie pond. Purchase orders issued.

BLT completed plank walkway on Pink trail approaching Boy Scout Bridge.

BLT looking to build plank walkway on Red trail through Santacroce property.

Next meeting:

October 6, 2021 at 5:45 PM at the Pisgah Brook Preserve (at end of Laurel Hill Road.)

Meeting adjourned at 7pm. Minutes recorded by Amy Bartels