

**Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority**

Minutes of March 1, 2023

Attending: Chair; Richard Shanahan, Amy Bartels, Ainsley Highman, Wendy Burton, Wes Beeman, Don Kacenski, Matt Reed. Guest: Bengt Kjellberg

WARDENS REPORT: Don Kacenski - No update

- Matt Reed was introduced to the board members, he will be helping the Warden on projects.

SUPPLY PONDS:

-Pine Gutter Brook erosion control, IWC approved on 2/23/23

- Bengt kjellberg presented information regarding stocking fish and a study showing good Ph for fish stocking at supply ponds. Bengt suggested stocking ponds with large mouth bass, Ideally in May with ideal size being 10-12" size at \$14 each from a fish farm in Ashford, CT. Alternatively, two different installments of fish, one in Spring/Summer and another in Fall could also work well. Bengt is available to help with stocking in May and July 2023. - Waiting for funding approval.

- Eversource ROW management scheduled to cut back on their flagged right-away area.

QUEACH PROPERTY:

- No updates

PISGAH BROOK & SALTONSTALL MTN.:

- Eppes – Boardwalk was vandalized, boards removed and thrown to sides of trail.

- Hilltop Drive/Green Trail Boardwalk. Waiting to start - no update

- P.O. issued for new boardwalk behind DeLeo at Green Trail & Branford Trail. Waiting to start.

- Waiting for estimates for supplemental boulders at Hilltop Drive, Laurel Hill & Blue Trail, behind DeLeo Field @ bridge, Lantern View

BEACON HILL:

- P.O. issued to cut remainder of summit trail down to Dominican

- Need to contact owner at 54 Dominican Rd. Potential encroachment - no new update

- Waiting for kiosk estimate. no new update

- "Welcome to Beacon Hill" sign installed.

- Waiting for estimate for gate at main trail entrance. no new update

QUARRY:

- “Welcome to Branford Quarry” sign ready to install. Quarry volunteered to dig holes with machines for sign placement at a suitable location.
- Requested estimate to regrade Green Trail from parking area to jct. w/ Branford Trail. no new update.
- Reports of person living in a car in the parking lot. Do not approach. Police will deal with the situation.

FARM RIVER MEADOW PRESERVE:

- Requested estimate for gate and boulders at parking area.
 - Evidence of car/truck traffic.
- Hospice Building and Church on Burban Drive have been sold, not much activity lately.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE:

- Boardwalk on Green Trail past meadow – Need contractor.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:

- Parks & Open Space Facebook page – 354 likes and 425 followers, Wendy continues to post on the site and more people are taking notice.
- Land Trust work parties – **Pisgah Brook/Knockers Hole** - Saturday 3/18/23, 9:00 am - noon
- Final project list for 2023–2024 fiscal year was unanimously approved by POSA board members.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the Branford Community Center.