

Kennedy Park Committee Minutes 10/10/2019 Call to order at 8:30 am Town Hall

Present: Bob Coakley, Ruth Wheeler, Luke Martin, Sue McNinch, Tom Roche, Andy Breslin, Terry Weaver, Ray Kirby. **Absent:** Joe Nolan. Also, present Bill Gop DPW and Gwen Miller

Minutes of April 11, 2019 Accepted

Treasurer's report: Trust interest \$368.91 (\$12,000.00 principle). Park fund/Donation \$951.31 and Overlook Account: \$7100.00. Bills paid Chris Carnevale \$450 in April, \$325, \$650 and \$650. Shane Bosworth for foundation and walkway for gazebo at Bakers Pond: \$1663.57 and \$450.00 and Tom Stebbin \$200 for weed whacking at Bakers Pond

Trail Maintenance Report: A big thank you to dedicated volunteers Art Stringer, Shane Bosworth, Tom Roche (brush hogged the field at Bakers Pond for free), Ray Kirby and Ruth Wheeler. Wheeler read some of the 2 pages of work that Art Stringer has preformed in the Park since April, mostly cutting up downed trees, weed whacking and shoveling out ditches and water bars. Ray Kirby has used the skid steer from the DPW and worked on the trails by the DPW, Coakley by the asphalt intersections, Deer Run x Weaver and Undermountain. On July 5 NEMBA members along with the help from the DPW transported huge stones and several loads crushed stone to Bridle to harden up several chronic wet areas. NEMBA volunteers also dug out water bars on Slippery Rock, a 100-foot section of the ditches on Woolsey by the kiosk, water bars on Cold Spring, a water bar on Deer Run and added stones to two wet areas on Bridle. Art Stringer mowed at the Belvedere all summer for free.

Trees in Pond off Main Trail: aka as Dead Horse Pond (!) There are several large trees in the pond including one with a very large root ball that has disturbed the trail tread and pond edge. After discussion, it was agreed that Ray and Bill will look at the root ball and decide how best to deal with the problem. Wheeler advocated for leaving the other trees for ecological reasons leaving the pond in a more natural wild state and pointed out that the beauty of the pond is very subjective. Removing the other trees was tabled till spring to allow members to view it.

Report on Kennedy Park Trail Stewards by Ruth Wheeler. I started a Facebook closed group with the intention of having Park users adopt a trail and to keep us up to date on any concerns or problems. There are approx. 25 members several of whom who are interested in helping maintain the Park.

Update on cutting at Overlook by Ruth Wheeler: Chris Carnevale has opened the vista, but more is needed on the West side. She will contact Chris

Update on Baker's Pond Gazebo and Stonework: Stage 1 has been completed and closed out according to Billy Gop. Gwen will start the process/paperwork for Stage 2 dredging. The water line coming from the Cold Spring: the line was put in such a way that there is too much friction loss and not enough elevation drop. Billy has continued to contact Hill Engineering who is looking into a solution, possible a pump but they have not presented any alternatives yet.

Signage Replacement Update by Ruth Wheeler- Eric Forstell (NEMBA and Arcadian Shop employee) and I replaced approx. 12 trail signs and added some more difficulty markers and repaired some signs that were hanging by one nail. Luke says he has more of the difficulty signs.

Old Business: Wheeler has not heard back from American Fence regarding the broken fence by the water tank. **Bog Bridging:** BNRC forwarded a photo and estimates of material they use for bog bridging. At the April meeting we will have a better idea of how many 10-foot sections are needed.

Gwen mentioned that Native Habitat has applied for another grant to continue the eradication project of the invasive hardy kiwi.

New Business: Wheeler has a photo of the view from the Gazebo that has grown in obscuring the vista of Mt. Greylock. She will contact Chris Carnevale.

Next meeting April 9th 2020 at 8:30 am at Town Hall

Adjourned at 9:35 am

Ruth Wheeler Secretary