

Kennedy Park Committee meeting, October 13,2022 Lenox Town Hall

Present: Bob Coakley, Ruth Wheeler, Luke Martin, Ray Kirby, Tom Roche, Sue McNinch. Also, Chris Ketchen and Bill Gop. Absent: Andy Breslin and Terry Weaver

Minutes of April 14, 2022

Treasurer's Report: see attached

New member announced. Mark Smith

A moment of silence for long time member Joe Nolan

Bob announced a gift of \$50,000 from the estate of Hans R. Fehlmann. See attached letter

Trail Maintenance: A very wet spring followed by a drought until Sept. Thanks to several volunteers: Bill Markham for rebuilding the Woolsey kiosk and cutting several huge trees including one at the Belvedere, one on Pondsides and several others. Bill Gop/DPW for cleaning up the brush and logs Bill cut at the Belvedere. Art Stringer for all the work he does including mowing, weed whacking, removing downed trees. Thanks to The Arcadian Shop crew for tree removal. Thanks to Ray Kirby for his help with trail maintenance with the front loader. He also put in a new post and re attached the West Dugway Parking Lot sign. Chris Carnevale cleared the downed trees off the Loop trail at Bakers Pond and Tom Roche mowed the field there.

Fence at Overlook/Belvedere needs a new section, Bob and Chris K will work on that.

Reeds at Bakers Pond. Jessica Toro from Native Habitat Restoration reported that there are 20 very small invasive phragmites along the north edge of Bakers Pond which she can treat individually if the permit is still open. The reeds are native cat tails. The issue is that the pond has no feeder stream and gets a lot of torrential rains that wash sediment into it. This will be a chronic problem. The options include asking Con Con for a permit to remove a native species or dredging it again but to keep it as a pond it will need constant maintenance.

Citizen input: Ginny Akabane, Andrea Goodman and Patty Spector spoke. All were concerned about the work Ray has done with the front loader. They were concerned for the safety of people tripping on the dirt piles that will be covered with the crushed stone once they are packed down. Andrea noted the newly repaired section on Red Neck has a drop off might be a concern during the winter for skiers. RW mentioned that a lot of the widening of trails is from people walking around wet spots and creating new lines specifically on Woolsey. The goal is to keep the trail tread dry enough that people don't need to walk the edges. Sonja B (citizen) mentioned some education and signs might help. RW and Ray will look at the areas and report back

Old business: RW reported that the updated maps are in the kiosks and map boxes. I stained all the map boxes and added you are here tags on each map.

New business: Bill Gop suggested we need a sign at Under Mountain entrance on Cliffwood St. The DPW workers are reporting that people can't find the entrance. Ray is going to replace the gate there and they will see if there is a spare Kennedy Park parking sign available.

Next meeting April 13, 2023 Ruth Wheeler Secretary