

Pondicherry Park Stewardship Committee
Bridgton Municipal Building
September 4, 2019
5:00 pm

Present: Mary Jewett (chair & LEA rep), Jim Kidder (public works), Glenn Zaidman (selectman), Allen Erler (LELT alternate), Leigh Hayes (LEA alternate), Mark Lagoda (town rep), and Bob Peabody (town manager)

Unable to attend: Heather Rorer (LELT rep), Dan Edwards (town rep)

Management Plan Update: Tabled until next meeting

Trail Assessment Update: Mary Jewett, Mark Lagoda, Heather Rorer and Jon Evans (LELT) walked trail system. Based on town intern Emily's suggestions and Jon's recommendations:

—town project: replace French drains with 6" pipes and build plunge pool; reroute lower section of dog trail

—volunteer crew: maintain going forward

—questions raised about easement: grant for gravel surface in wet areas, including by stonewall on dog trail? water bars on Cook Camp trail?

Actions: Jim Kidder will contact several contractors for informed bids to include the following:

6" pipes

gravel by stonewall

water bar below AMC bench

It was noted that boardwalk replacement is high maintenance. Suggested that boardwalk areas be redesigned so don't need to keep fixing; perhaps build granite culverts which are natural open and lower maintenance. Jon Evans and Mark Lagoda will meet to discuss proper standards for trail maintenance.

Volunteer Liability: Town's liability questioned. Cmt members appointed and fall under insurance policy; Bob Peabody will reach out to town attorney and Chalmers Insurance to draft waivers.

Pasture Trail Reroute: Due to water issues and fallen trees, start from Pondicherry Loop; need approval from LEA, LELT and Town Selectman to approve rerouting.

Motion: The Pondicherry Park Stewardship Committee recommends that Loon Echo Land Trust and Lakes Environmental Association approve the rerouting of the Pasture Trail and then make a recommendation to the Town of Bridgton Selectman for the same. Motion made by Mark Lagoda; second by Allen Erler. **Unanimous Approval.**

Pasture Mowing: Access to field for yearly mowing.

Motion: The Pondicherry Park Stewardship Committee recommends the Town of Bridgton Selectboard ask the Town Manager to negotiate with landowners [of the Keene homestead] to gain access in order to mow the field once/year as per conservation easement and put said agreement in writing. Motion made by Glenn Zaidman; second by Mark Lagoda. **Unanimous Approval.**

Bridgton Public Library's Storybook Trail:

Committee suggests that the library needs to rework the storybook trail.

Volunteer Day: October 3, 4pm at Bob Dunning Memorial Bridge; bring hand tools.

Potential Volunteer Projects: Preservative on bridge—Silverwood preservative; drip edge on roof; "You Are Here" signs at major intersections; geo-referenced park map for GPS; weedwhacking at amphitheater.

Other: iMap Invasives: Need map to determine where plants are located and how to tackle methodically one section at a time; educate public. Group of trained volunteers will be encouraged to work on this.

Next Meeting: October 3, 2019 at Bob Dunning Bridge to do trail work.

Meeting adjourned: 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Macmillen Hayes
PPSC clerk