MINUTES

September 8, 2015

Trails Committee Meeting

Present: Chairperson, Charles Tatham, Denis Beaulieu, David Smith, Marika Wilde

Arrived late: John Wallace and Matthew Carpenter

Guest: Diane St. Jean

Denis made a motion to accept the August 11, 2015 Minutes as written; David seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

    1) Guest, Diane St. Jean presented her request for volunteers to lead several hikes in conjunction with BMS on October 15 @ 8:30 a.m.  The Hikes will be patented after the Hikes led by volunteers 3 years ago for BMS.  Various potential locations for this year's hikes were discussed as well as the need for a work session on September 14 on several of the trails prior to the hikes with some signs to be added also.  There were 5 final Hike locations chosen for the volunteers to lead which are: a) The Barrington Trail divided into 2 parts; b) Richardson Pond; c) the Town Forest and d) Haley Forest to Mallego Brook (behind BMS).

    2) Barrington Girl Scouts put up some signs in the Town Forest as a part of the Gold Award Project.  Progress was made with more still to be done.

    3) The Barrington Trail Walk is to recognize the good work of the BMS students and will showcase their new signage during the October 15 hike on the Barrington Trail.

    4) There was a discussion on the Rt. 125 SATWaSR parking lot work session held on August 22 and what may happen in the spring to the newly planted parking area.  Marika is to do a report on the work session to be sent to Tara Barker of the Recreation Department to then be put into the next issue of the Town Common.

    5). The rescheduled Atlantic White Cedar Swamp Hike, to be led by Charlie, will be at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 26 with a September 27 rain date.  Marika will send out the Press Release to the Hike List using last year's write up as a template.

New Business:

    1) Anyone wishing to submit an article to the Town Common relating to Trails Committee activities should send it to Tara Barker of the Recreation Department.

    2) Roadside stabilization work is needed on the Rt. 125 road into SATWaSR up to the log landing.  Putting in water bars for both the parking area and the road was discussed at length with no plans as of now to be implemented.  John will contact the Messengers for an estimate of the potential work to be done.

    3) A work session was scheduled for Tuesday, September 15 to remove small trees blocking the woods road leading to the Atlantic White Cedar Swamp prior to the proposed walk into the Swamp.

    4) Discussion was held as to what commercial signs should be used and where to mount them along our trails.  After looking at the commercial signs given to Charlie, several suggestions were then given i.e.: "No Wheeled Vehicles" and "Steep Hill".

    5) Discussion was held regarding replacing "Wildlife Safety Zone" signs along the bounds of the Town Forest as many have fallen off of trees or are about to fall off.  The discussion also included whether hunting is allowed although it was assumed that the Town Forest was closed to hunting.

    6) Part of the Barrington Trail still needs more signage and owners will have to be contacted first.  The Pooh Trail also needs some sign repair.

    7) There is some money remaining in the SATWaSR Stewardship Budget which is available for use.

    8) Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 13.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marika Wilde, Acting Secretary