

Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force Meeting Minutes:

1/23/12 Accepted as Amended

Monday December 19, 2011 8:30 am

Christine Ward, chair

Location: 2nd Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall 334 Main Street, Great Barrington

PRESENT: C. Ward, Chair, D. Abrams, R. Dlugosz, N. Evans, D. Phillips, C. Rembold, A. Sewall, J. Sokol. Levi Vigneron (Town Planner's intern) visiting

NEXT MEETING: 1/23/12 at 8:30 AM, Town Hall

MINUTES OF 11/17/11: Approved as amended

ETHICS TRAINING: Mandatory biennially for town employees or board/committee members. Nearly all LMITF members have completed current training; rest will do so by end of 2011.

RECREATION AREA AND MAINTENANCE UPDATES:

Weight limits on Lake Mansfield Road: By state law ~~45-48%~~ **5-8%** of road traffic must be trucks weighing more than 2.5 tons to impose a road weight limit and there must exist an alternative to that road. Studies already completed (see below). Next step is submission of warrant to Select Board; limit can probably be passed by spring.

Weed fabric removal: completed.

Traffic study: DPW just received traffic count data for Lake Mansfield Road. Average count is total (north and south-bound) 570 trips/day (down from close to 1000 trips per diem in last count) between Christian Hill Road and Castle Hill Avenue. Probable reasons for decline include closing of hill road on Simon's Rock campus, worsened road conditions, and increase in public awareness of the road as part of a recreation area rather than a throughway.

Newsletter: to be prepared in March. Please submit ideas for articles to Christine.

Report of Lake Mansfield Park summer management: see attachment

Planning for trails in Lake Mansfield Conservation Forest: Trail workshop proposal approved by Conservation Commission. Outreach letter to Dehon Road community to be circulated; George Guerrero will assist on helping Dehon road inhabitants understand the benefits of this work.

Forest trails work is included in a an already submitted collaborative grant proposal from GB Trails for a 2011 Housatonic Heritage Partnership Grant for Trail Projects.

Parks Commission Update: Christine Ward has resigned from the Parks Commission. 2012 Task Force Positions will be proposed to BOS to include Christine as a citizen at large. New rep needed from Parks Comm.

Planning Board update: Board is developing regulations for solar power.

DPW update: Capital plan includes engineering study of alternatives to fix Lake Mansfield Road.

Open Space Plan: Want to update demographic data and have at least two public forums starting in March.

N. Evans, Recording Secretary