

HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Land Stewardship Subcommittee

MINUTES OF MEETING – approved 10/29/13

**June 18, 2013**

**Members Present:** Wendy Sisson, Jim Adelson, Pam Durrant, Phil Knoettner

**Members not Present:** Dave Kay, Marc Seigny, Bob Benson

Wendy Sisson called the meeting to order at 7:20 P.M. in the Hildreth House meeting room

Minutes from the previous meeting (3/27/13), as prepared by Jim, were approved

Field/Path Mowing

- Some is done by nearby individuals, some by contractor Wayne Carolan, and some by DPW
- Most locations get one mowing per year, but the timing differs, based on the type of property, the preference of the individual doing the mowing, and the mower's availability
- We need to identify any additional places where paths through fields need mowing; Pam mentioned Powell-Reed-Abbot
- Phil will try to get a neighbor to be responsible for mowing a path at Prospect Hill, with DPW/Wayne continuing to do the annual mowing of the entire entry field, "Newman"
- Phil will ask Chris Tracey to do the entry to Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary from Bolton Road

Invasives

- Powell will receive an additional treatment
- Williams Land will be the next property to be worked on
- Pam will find out who the current owner is for the property from whom we need permission to get better access to Williams, without needing to ford the stream
- At Clapp-Scorgie, we would like to take out the Norway maple; Wendy will talk to Jim Burns about taking that project
- We'll have a site walk at the Williams Land, to look at possibly taking out white pines that are encroaching on the middle field; this site walk is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 6/26 at 3:15 PM

Signage

- We still need to make or replace signs in a few places
  - o Powell-Reed-Abbot entry from Bolton Road
  - o Eastview may need to be repainted
- Jim will update the sign list, to reflect sign status, particularly the replacement signs put up by Phil in the last year

- The sign at the Bolton Road entry to Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary was hit by a vehicle and damaged; Phil said that he and Ned Leeming would look at replacing the post
- We need to put up additional signs showing conservation land boundaries on Tripp; Wendy and Jim will do this
- We will plan to mark the boundaries of the new Hoch property in the Fall

#### Other Activities/Issues

- We may need to implement a “pick up after your dog” policy for the trail on the Williams Land; this appears to be the trail with the heaviest dog usage, and dog feces are particularly noticeable in winter
- Phil did sign repair at Holy Hill, and is observing to see how well the particular technique will work and last
- An out-of-town volunteer cleared small pines growing up in the Dancing Ground at Holy Hill
- Marc cleared fallen pines at the Poison Ivy field at Holy Hill
- Phil and Bob cleared and re-marked the Vesenska/Black Pond trail all the way to the pond, which was a lot of work
- Ted Elliman gave an invasives talk at Volunteers Hall, which was well attended
- Sue Toll has sent a letter, noting the increasing encroachment of succession growth at the so-called “White Birch” Field on Holy Hill; we’ll plan to schedule a site walk to observe and determine what our course of action should be; if possible the site walk should include Sue and/or Ned Toll and Marc Sevigny and/or Andy Warner – Phil will reply to Sue on this

Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 16

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM