

HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Land Stewardship Subcommittee

MINUTES OF MEETING

**January 21, 2014**

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

**Members not Present:** Pam Durrant, Dave Kay, 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 (10/29/13), as prepared by Jim, were approved

To visit Stone and Maxant properties, in Spring, at higher water, to consider possibilities for trail routing, presumably to be followed by additional marking, since the current trail is hard to follow

Hoskings Point on Clapp-Scorgie

- Someone has painted graffiti on the rocks there
- Given the relatively large size of the graffiti, Phil plans to use an electric drill equipped with a stiff wire brush to remove the paint quickly and with a reasonable level of effort, while making sure not to damage the rocks

Dean's Hill – After a previous walk, the Snowmobile Club was informed in writing that their newly requested route could not be approved because it went through wetland, but apparently they've done it anyway, saying that the wet areas were frozen over

Hermann Orchard

- Don Green discontinued caring for the orchard 10 + years ago; 5 - 6 years ago Sean McLaughlin (Little Rascals) expressed interest in clearing the orchard and using for sheep pasture, but that would have required a 10-year lease to the property for subsequent use that the town couldn't commit to
- There have been conversations over the past two years with several parties regarding clearing the trees with differing approaches proposed but no estimates offered
- Access for heavy equipment is a determining factor
- Wendy currently believes that cutting the trees near ground level and leaving the stumps may be the best way to go, with piles of cut trees left at selected locations on the property; McLaughlin could then prospectively get an annual license for pasturing and has offered access for clearing equipment through his land under this scenario
- Wendy will re-examine and confirm the absence of a CR on the property
- Tony Shaw has made a proposal for clearing the trees, for which a response is needed at the Con Comm meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>; Wendy will present the alternatives for discussion on February 6<sup>th</sup>

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM