

Kennedy Park Committee Meeting Lenox Town Hall

April 28, 2016 8:30 am

Present: Bob Coakley, Tom Roche, Luke Martin, Andy Breslin, Ray Kirby, Joe Nolan, Sue McNinch, and Ruth Wheeler

Also: Town Planner Gwen Miller, Liaison to Select board Warren Archey and Town Manager Chris Ketchen

Minutes of 12/10/2015 accepted

Treasurers report: Trust Fund: 106.91, Donation account: 8944.91, Overlook account: 8400.00 and Capital account Zero

Welcomed new member Tom Roche

Josh Berg gave a presentation regarding the merits of having a dog park at the West Dugway Parking lot area of about 1-2 acres. Several questions were raised: parking lot isn't large enough, who will maintain it, how to avoid fights, making it unattractive to park at the Arcadian Shop, using a sticker/membership means to control the number of dogs/people. AB, RK and RW will look into the issue.

Trail Maintenance Report: Chris Carnevale has removed some dead trees. RW mentioned that there was a complaint about the amount of horse manure on the trails and overflowing garbage cans at the Belvedere. LM said he will empty the garbage this weekend. RK will ask Sean (DPW) if they can empty that garbage once a week. RW will ask Art Stringer if he is interested in mowing this summer but if not we need to find a volunteer or pay someone. RK said he will contact the potential new buyer of the Stables regarding the informal agreement we had with Dave Roche to clean the horse manure on Deer Run, Woolsey, the Main Trail and the Belvedere area.

Bakers Pond Update by Chris Ketchen: The Town is in the process of complying with the NOI (notice of intent). The invasive plants around the pond need to be removed before any more work can be done. Native Habitat will be removing the plants after it's possible to id them later in the spring.

Gazebo at Bakers Pond update: Tom and Shane Bosworth cleared debris from around the old foundation of a utility shed. Rob Akroyd designed a structure and LM has agreed to build it. RA has filed an RDA but the Con Con says they cannot act on it until the NOI

(see above) has been completed. Because this is within 100 feet of a pond the Con Con must be involved.

Kiwi Update by Gwen Miller; Native Habitat has almost finished cutting the kiwi in the Park. The Town is applying for a NOI with Natural Heritage and Mass Audubon to apply herbicide this summer. There are funds in the capital budget of \$75,000 to start and \$10,000/year for the next 5 years. Native Habitat updated the management plan to include Bakers Pond. An informational meeting was held at the Lenox Library attended by about 35 people in March including Mass Audubon, BEAT (Berkshire Environmental Action Committee) and the botanist from Natural Heritage. By this fall and next spring it will be apparent how successful the treatment was. This is a shared contract between the State and the Town. The Con Con must approve the application of the herbicide. There will be signs posted when the herbicide is applied and all abutters will be notified. There will be volunteer days to pull by hand the small kiwi. RW inquired about the kiwi along Woolsey form the Arcadian Shop- there are a couple of trees with heavy kiwi that are leaning over the trail.

Donated Benches: No more information about the parties interested in donating benches.

New picnic tables: CPA money bought the picnic table that the DPW placed at the West Dugway parking lot. Gwen said she will be ordering two ADA picnic tables soon. Warren Archey who is also the Town tree warden orange blazed several dead trees at that picnic area. . For the time being those trees will be allowed to stand.

Old Business: De-stumping the field along Rt 7 at Bakers Pond: In light of the issue of gullyng of water off of Rt 7 and the difficulty of de-stumping the area it makes sense not to do the work. RW suggested perhaps we could just hand trim the small seedlings so it doesn't grow in completely.

New Business: Where did the \$2500 come from in the donation account? BC will check with the Town Treasurer.

Next meeting: sometime early summer to discuss the dog park as well as update on Bakers Pond.

Regular semi-annual meeting is scheduled for Oct 13, 2016 at 8:30 am at Town Hall

Submitted by Ruth Wheeler, Secretary