



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH Trails Sub-Committee

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Approved 01/18/10

Town of Northborough-Trails Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2010

Present: George Curtis, Sherral Devine, Claude Guerlain, Scott Karpuk, Nancy Kellner, Forest Lyford, Bob Mihalek and Jim Stein

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm. Approval of the August minutes was postponed until our next meeting

The meeting began with a discussion of Applefest

- George thanked the volunteers for another successful experience.
- George discussed the Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT's) "Outdoors This Week" web feature. After a brief discussion, NTC agreed to be a sponsor and "feeder" site, once our website is updated and current.
- Claude suggested posting a schedule of our monthly meetings at next year's booth
- Bob will "cull" the sign ups for the SVT mailing list to solicit interest in the NTC

Forest updated us on his series of Senior Center Hikes.

- He has led two hikes so far with about 15 people attending each one; total participation (because of overlap) around 25 people
- Hike duration is an hour and a half which translates to about a mile in distance
- Hikes leave from the Senior Center Thursday mornings at 10 a. m.
- Claude volunteered to co-lead the hikes when she is available
- Next hike is 9/23 at Cold Harbor

Trail Steward Reports

- a) Mt. Pisgah-Status report not available
- b) Cold Harbor-Bob reported that Phil Gott volunteered to paint the trail signs on Cherry St., pointing the hikers down the road, past his farm and onward towards the West. St. trailhead. Sherral noted that trails are basically in good shape but that bridge access should be fixed in the short run and trails should be evaluated for rerouting around wet areas in the long run. Forest offered to put a roof on the kiosk. Mapbox on West St. needs to be replaced due to insect nest.
- c) Jubilee-Forest put a sign at mapbox to better mark trailhead, otherwise no status report
- d) Edmund Hill-Trails in good shape per Forest. He noted that work is being done to remediate the soil on the old Fish and Game site.

- e) Yellick and SuAsCo (Coyote/Bird Song/Old Farm)-Claude moved the mapbox on Boundary Street because it was damaged. She noted trash dumped in the parking lot. She and Forest reset some of the bridges on Bird Song but they still need to be reattached and tethered.
- f) Stirrup Brook-Bob mowed the meadow. Unstable bridge needs to be fixed.
 - a. As a side, it was noted that only members of the Trails Committee or their designees should be doing trail maintenance. Perhaps a notice on the website could indicate that all maintenance concerns should be referred to the committee as some trails are on private property
- g) Watson Park-Jim shared his very impressive sign project for Watson Park to clearly show where the trail goes after it crosses the meadow.
- h) Cedar Hill/Little Chauncey-Bob noted that everything is fine on the Sawink end; no other status available.

Old/New Business

- Eagle Scout Project--Chapin Canal Public Access at Yellick
 - Kathy Joubert has been working with the DPW to remove trash from Chapin Canal. Will hopefully be completed in a few weeks.
 - Harry is currently working on the content for the kiosks. Actual construction may not take place until next year
- Eagle Scout Project—Nature’s Classroom at Algonquin (Stirrup Brook Trail)
 - Bob cleared wood for Andrew’s project. Scouts have a project day scheduled for October 2 to clear out the wood and begin construction of Nature’s Classroom area
- Website update—Jim now has password access to the website and is still exploring its functionality. He has requested that people review the site and let him know about any errors or discrepancies.
- There is interest in fixing all the trail maps to include scale, distances and some information on level of difficulty
- George requested that we reflect on the following 3 questions for discussion at our next meeting:
 - Are we creating more trails than we can maintain?
 - Does Northborough need more trails?
 - If so, why?

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Kellner, Secretary