

Meeting Minutes – Upton Land Stewardship Committee

October 12, 2013

Whitney Conservation Area/147 North Street; 2 pm

Members Present: Mary Overholt, Mike Penko, Marcella Stasa, Bill Taylor

Attendees for part of the meeting: Bob and Michelle Potheau

1. The Committee met on site to discuss possible enhancements to the Whitney Conservation Area trail and the parking Lot off North Street.
2. Parking Lot: Committee agreed there was a need to demarcate the parking area to prevent vehicles from parking on the trail and to avoid encroachments on private property. The following alternatives were considered to delineate a ca. 64 ft. wide parking area: pressure treated guard rails; boulders, timbers placed on ground, concrete “bumpers”, and a rope barrier. After considerable discussion the committee decided to use boulders. MS will ask Jeff Thompson (DPW director) if his crew can move boulders from a stockpile located at Stefans Farm to the Whitney CA. The Potheau’s offered to use equipment they have on site to place the boulders as directed by the LSC. The Potheau’s will also widen the parking area slightly (removing a few feet of lawn) and top dress it with slate colored gravel.
3. Stone Wall Maintenance: Over the years some large stones have been displaced from the stone wall along the south side of the property and lie along the base of the wall. The Potheau’s agreed to try to place these stone onto the top of the wall.
4. Fencing: All agreed that a wire fence along the trail was a good idea. The Potheau’s would like to install the same style of fence used by the LSC on the west side of North Street and use the same vendor to install the fence. The LSC was amendable to this idea. There was discussion about the height of the fence (4 or 5 ft.), but no decision was made. The alignment of the fence also needs to be finalized, particularly where it would cross near the septic system, and near the parking area.
5. Plantings: The Potheau’s are planting some evergreens along the trail easement as a visual screen.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 pm