

Meeting of the Open Space Committee
In-person/Zoom meeting
August 9, 2021

Meeting opened at 7:05 pm.

Present: Harold Thomas, Mary Dunn, Bob Meader, Judy Grecco, Joe Grecco, John Ferraro
Duke Magoun

Guest: Bruce Ryerson

July meeting notes to be distributed.

Trail Maintenance:

Dumping at Melzer Hatch property on Linden Lane.

Sandy provided information regarding neighbors continued dumping yard waste at entrance to Melzer Hatch property. "No dumping" signs installed by DPW have been knocked over. Large rocks installed have been pushed back. Perpetrators have been identified, but are unrepentant. Sandy asks for OSC opinion on next steps. OSC votes unanimously to support Sandy 100%. We feel scofflaws should be fined. Duke will contact Scott McFadden at Wildlands Trust (owners of Melzer Hatch property) to find out if they have a process they typically use, or if Hanover Conservation should proceed.

French's Stream bridge.

Downed tree blocking access to bridge has been removed by Joe and Duke. Thank you! No damage to bridge.

Torrey Brook bridge at King Phillip Lane.

Joe and Duke report a few hours of work needed to repair decking and replace stringer. Judy concerned conditions are hazardous – someone could step through into hole. Bob and Duke will visit 8/10 at 9:00am and do temporary patch. He will also estimate materials needed for permanent fix. Funds are still available from CPC allocation. We will plan on Fall project.

Addendum: Bob and Duke completed patching 8/10. Thank you!

Nava property.

Hal will speak to Fireworks contact regarding wood chips to be delivered for Nava parking lot area. John volunteers to meet truck there to direct distribution.

Chuck Nudd will mow field again this fall. Someone has trimmed growth along stone wall. Judy will get price to rebuild stone wall, as deteriorating and often overgrown.

Bridges and boardwalks.

Judy has compiled a list of bridges and boardwalks on conservation properties. We agreed they should be inspected at least yearly.

Conservation Restrictions:

Sylvester Field CR in process. Open items include possible siting of Historical Commission barn, and some concerns from Sandy. Judy will contact Peter Johnson

regarding Historical Commission wishes, and Scott McFadden to see if they can be accommodated. Mary will contact Ann about Sandy's concerns.

"Combo CR" on other properties purchased with CPA money still stalled. Mary will contact Ann again about these, and suggest they move to Selectmen's meeting agenda.

Disposal of Town-owned land.

This item had been removed from July Selectmen's meeting agenda. Mary and Hal will plan to attend when it reappears.

Planning Board

We discussed working with Planning Board regarding potential developments. The Planning Board seat on OSC remains vacant. Mary will invite Town Planner, Christine Stickney, to our September or October meeting.

Indian Head River Coalition:

Eric Boyer is working with Plymouth County on trail extension from Luddam's Ford to Chapman's Landing. After Plymouth County approval, we will need North River Commission and Hanover Conservation approvals.

New signage for Water Street and Hanson in process.

Rail Trail

Mass Trails grant application unsuccessful.

Duke reports that a volunteer Project Manager will be needed to advance the project using Hanover CPC funds. No one at Town Hall has the time to manage this project. Mary will confirm with Selectman Louko and discuss options.

Addendum: Steve Louko confirms with Joe Colangelo that project moving forward under DPW auspices, and first phase (to West Hanover) to begin Fall 2021.

"Trail Team"

Volunteers solicited through Town website may need CORI check if working with any young people (under 18). That may be true for any of us. Duke asks for a definition of trail volunteer to obtain advice from CORI coordinator. Duke to ask Ann Lee about overall Town policy.

We will include new volunteers on Torrey Brook bridge repair project.

Sylvester Field

Purchase completed. CR still outstanding.

Land Donation on Indian Head River

Donation completed. CR completed by Wildland's Trust.

Natural Resource Damages (NRD) grant.

No update.

Next meeting: September 13, 2021

Submitted by Mary Dunn