

Williamsburg Woodland Trails Committee

Minutes of the 9/14/11 meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by John Hoogstraten in the absence of Chair Paul Jahnige. Also present were Andrew Gould, Eileen Keegan, Diane Merritt, Gwen Blodgett. Phil Merritt- guest and Rob Stinson from the Cons. Comm.

Communications –None

Minutes of the 8/10/11 meeting were read, ammended and approved.

Rob Stinson from the Cons. Comm. was present at our request to discuss the presence of pallets on the trail of the Briar Hill Conservation area. There are 4 pallets in the stream bed of the trail and 3 in the trail on the N. boundary. The plank footbridge at the stream has also been washed downstream by the storms. The Cons. Comm. will set up a site visit with us, and have agreed to share in the removal of the pallets. JH will check with Bill Turner of the local snowmobile club about usage of the trail by his group and about partnering with WWT to possibly construct an appropriate bridge for snowmobile use. We agreed on a site visit with the Cons. Comm. for Oct. 11, at 5:00 p.m..

JH will also ask Bill Turner about the Town making a parking pull off at the Briar Hill Area entrance.

Breckenridge bridge work day is scheduled for Sat. Oct. 29, with a rain date of the following Sat.. GB informed the group that Blake Brook bridge, necessary for our workday, has been washed off its moorings by the storms and is presently downstream. JH and Eric Weber will make a site visit before the workday. The bridge is the responsibility of HTLT. JH and Eric Weber will organize materials and publicity for the workday and investigate the possibility of dropping a couple of trees to supply the stringers. HTLT will purchase bridge construction materials.

Hall property- bridges and crossings were ok after the storms. There is 1 leaning tree and a windfall which JH offered to cut out. There was erosion at the trail entrance which could be repaired with a broad shallow dip. PJ thinks there may be FEMA \$ for repairs.

Petticoat Hill- JH and AG have not cut out the windfalls but noted that the new broad shallow dips worked well through the storms.

Trail surveys- Petticoat Hill- Eileen, Hall and O'Neil Hill- Gwen, Breckenridge- John and Eric, Bradley- Diane with a handsaw, Briar Hill –ok.

4-Town Trail- PJ has had contact with Sylvia Sofonoski and will report.

Valley view- GB doesn't know if Ron Wolanin has been to the trail.

O'Neil poison ivy- Lincoln Fish is ok with chemical eradication, Mary Shanley has not yet replied.

Fall Hike- will plan at the Oct. meeting. It was suggested that we combine a hike with the bridge building workday at Breckenridge on Oct. 29th.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Merritt