

Forestry and Stewardship Sub-Committee of the East Haddam Conservation Commission

October 9, 2013

Adopted November 13, 2013

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Forestry and Stewardship Sub-Committee of the East Haddam Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2013, at 6:37 PM at the Gelston residence. The Chairperson being in the Chair and the Secretary being Present.

a. Roll Call

Marilyn Gleeson, Sue Merrow, Todd Gelston, Paul Sienna.

2. Approval of Agenda

Add "volunteer sign in sheet"

Motion by Ms. Merrow to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Ms. Gleeson and unanimously approved.

3. New Business

a. Update on East Haddam Public Works Assistance

Mr. Smith was not able to attend the meeting, but Mr. Gelston noted that Mr. Shea was contracted to mow the Hatch Lot. Ms. Gleeson noted that it has been completed. Mr. Gelston noted the cover for the well house at Patrell requires fixing quickly but did not know if that had been addressed yet. Mr. Gelston will follow up directly with the Director of Public Works and Mr. Ventres on this issue. Mr. Gelston will also discuss with them moving the gate on Hatch Lot further back to provide further parking. The parking area at Patrell also needs to be addressed to make sure vehicles do not drive over the old garage cement slab.

Mr. Sienna briefed Mr. Ventres on the work on Pizzini and noted the Hatch Lot is next for tagging and blazing. Mr. Ventres noted Hatch Lot boundaries have been tagged but not blazed. Mr. Sienna noted he walked Davison property and the east boundary is marked via survey flags (he physically verified). During his conversation with Mr. Ventres, Mr. Ventres noted the north boundary was completed as well. All this work will make it possible to blaze and tag the Davison property.

b. Updated Work Day Schedules and Property Assignments

Mr. Gelston noted the Sept 28th work day went very well and thanked everyone for their support. After the work done on Sept. 28, Mr. Gelston indicated the work is likely to take 500 man hours to complete the full plan as outlined by the sub-committee.

Discussion ensued about how to choose trail color markings. Ms. Gleeson will research to see if there is any guidance or logic around color markings for trail.

c. Manpower Assignments

Mr. Gelston provided a proposed work day schedule. Next work party will finish the work started at the Pizzini property. At the Oct. 26th work party, the teams will split up and work on two different teams. Team captains need to be determined. The focus is to break up into 3 teams by the end of the year.

d. Volunteer Pool

Ms. Gleeson talked with Mr. Ventres, who will distribute an email outlining the work party details to the Moodus Sportsmen's Club and the Boy Scouts. Ms. Gleeson will provide an email to Mr. Ventres for the 10/26 work party. The email will note all interested parties can reach out to Mr. Sienna. Ms. Gleeson suggested reaching out to those groups first and then reaching out to others if participation is low. Ms. Gleeson will also reach out to the Superintendent of Schools to discuss as well.

e. Patches and Vests

Ms. Gleeson asked for clarity on where to purchase safety vests. Mr. Sienna noted they are available on Amazon and youth sizes are available. Mr. Gelston will also see if the Town can provide as well.

Mr. Gelston talked with John Gibson who provided information around the patches. There were 200 patches ordered. Mr. Gibson also provided the vendor information and a printed version of what the badge looks like. Mr. Gelston will also check with Mr. Mackinnon to see if he remembers what happened with the patches.

f. Volunteer sign in sheet

Mr. Sienna presented the idea of creating a sign in sheet for the purpose of keeping track of who volunteered and emergency contact information in case someone gets hurt. The sheet will include:

- Name
- Address
- Emergency Contact – name, phone numbers (cell and home), relationship
- Home, cell and email for volunteer

4. Old Business

a. Safe Work Plan and Requirements

Nothing noted to be discussed given the first work party's experience.

b. Minimum Tool List

Mr. Gelston provided a list of the minimum tools needed per work group. To get the work groups started, he reviewed the list and highlighted tools needed. Mr. Gelston noted no more than 2 axes are needed – Mr. Gelston and Mr. Sienna will provide. The chain saw is only for emergencies – Mr. Gelston will provide. Mr. Gelston asked the members to bring loppers as if each person has one, it makes for easy work. For the paint cans and the spray cans – Mr. Smith can provide (paint is the priority). Mr. Gelston will discuss purchasing quart size cans of the paint as there was too much paint brought into the preserve for the first work parties. Only two people are required for painting. Mr. Sienna and Ms. Gleeson will bring their bow saws. Mr. Smith will need to bring the signs. Mr. Gelston will bring the crow bar. Ms. Goyette offered to lend Mr. Gelston her post hole digger since no one has this tool. Mr. Gelston and Mr. Sienna will bring shovels. More nails are needed; Mr. Gelston will purchase more nails from Shagbark. Mr. Gelston will ask Mr. Smith to note when more bolts are needed. Mr. Gelston will also discuss the need for a sign for Hatch Lot. A property map is a definite given the need for accuracy; Mr. Gelston will ask Mr. Ventres for an official map of

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the Pizzini property. Mr. Sienna noted the metal detector is needed; Mr. Gelston will discuss getting the metal detector for use on the property marking.

5. Announcements and other discussion

The next meeting of the Forestry and Stewardship Sub-Committee is November 13 at 6:30pm at the Gelston residence.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Merrow to adjourn at 8:34 pm, second by Ms. Gleeson, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary

Attachments:

- Forestry and Stewardship Suggested Work Day Schedule and property assignments
- Forestry and Stewardship Minimum Tool list