

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

March 26, 2015

Adopted April 7, 2015

### 1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of Forestry and Stewardship Sub-Committee of the East Haddam Conservation Commission was held on Thursday, March 26, 2015, at 7:15 PM at the Gelston residence. The Chairperson being in the Chair and the Secretary being Present.

#### a. Roll Call

Rob Smith, Marilyn Gleeson, Joe Zaid, Sue Merrow, Paul Sienna, Todd Gelston. Other attendees: Tom Buhl – departed 7:34pm

### 2. Approval of Agenda

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

### 3. New Business

#### a. Sabine Parcel Trail and Bridge Project

Tom Buhl joined the meeting to discuss his project to blaze a trail on the Sabine property. He asked for guidance about the color he should make the trail. The sub-committee discussed and determined the color should be blue. Mr. Smith will let Mr. Buhl know the actual color blue that is used to keep the colors consistent on all the trails. Mr. Gelston discussed the bridge design that Mr. Buhl is working on, using 2x12s as the support beams. The bridge will have a railing on both sides. Mr. Buhl has already provided sketches to Mr. Gelston, who provided feedback. The project needs to be completed by April 2; Mr. Buhl plans on doing the bulk of the work this coming weekend. Mr. Smith will walk the trail prior to the weekend. The project has been signed off by the Town (Mr. Ventres) and has all the Troop approvals. Mr. Sienna asked Mr. Buhl to come back after the snow has all melted to ensure the trails are actually clear. Mr. Buhl would also like to line the trail with sticks and downed limbs as it helps hikers with knowing where it is until it is firmly established.

#### b. Trail mapping

Ms. Gleeson provided an update on the trail mapping design. Discussion ensued, and there are a few additional changes Ms. Gleeson will be making. Ms. Gleeson provided a spreadsheet outlining what needs to be completed prior to the trail maps being released. Ms. Gleeson provided the GPS units she received from Ms. Matthewson to Mr. Zaid, Mr. Sienna, Mr. Smith, Ms. Merrow, and Mr. Gelston

#### c. Trail Guide Text

Ms. Gleeson provided an updated layout and received feedback on how to update for better readability.

#### d. Trail Guide Layout and Printing

Ms. Gleeson suggested printing in sets, starting with more popular and larger parcels first and publishing the smaller ones last. Chapman, Hatch Lot, Dean, Harris, Burnham Brook and Sheepskin are potentials to be considered for printing as part of the first batch. Ms. Gleeson and Ms. Gelston will be meeting with Stacy Zaid this week to discuss the printing costs. Mr. Zaid will send along the GPS information that he learned about during the CLCC conference he attended.

e. Schedule for Trail Guide Completion and Distribution

To finalize the maps, the following will be addressed:

Ayers - Rob will walk and GPS

Ballahack – Joe and Paul will walk and GPS the boat launch

Burnham – Todd will locate memorial rock for the waypoint, and will walk full trail to gather high and low elevations

Chapel – Rob will walk white and paved trail

Harris – Rob will walk the blue, red and yellow trail. (A trail head is needed to direct people where to find the trails).

Hatch – Rob is walking green and purple, and orange section connecting on Dean.

Jezeq – Sue

Nichols – Paul and Joe will walk blue, red, orange and white trail

Old Field – Rob will walk entire trail

Rose Farm – Paul and Joe on red and blue trails

Ms. Gleeson asked everyone to contact her when a few trails are walked so she can download the information and begin working on the trail maps.

Ms. Gleeson will provide the copy to Ms. Goyette, who will proof-read the content.

f. Saturday Work Afternoon Tasks and Schedule

In about 2 weeks, the ground should be dry enough to begin to hold work parties again. Mr. Gelston noted one Saturday can be used to address the Davison property. Mr. Smith will get a sign made for Davison. Ms. Goyette will reach out to Ted Cone to determine if he owns or knows who owns the property backing up to Lord Wellington and Daniel Peck Road as the CC would like to connect the two properties. She will also find out how Lord Wellington got its name.

g. Winter Use of Trails

Ms. Gleeson noted that the Sheepskin Hollow parking lot was plowed. There are several other open space parcels that need to be plowed out during the winter going forward so the public can enjoy the parcels during the winter months.

h. Other

Nothing to report.

4. Old Business

a. Boy Scout Projects

Adam Mosig called Mr. Smith to let him know all fund raising has been completed for both his project and his brother's kiosk project, and they are going to begin working on the projects with the focus on being completed sometime this spring. Griffin Shepard has completed his

project and is now going to receive his Eagle Scout badge. The CC will be invited to attend his Eagle Scout ceremony.

- b. Status of the EHCC's request to the EHPW Department for Work  
Mr. Gelston will contact the tree warden, Beth Lunt, to remove the tree overhanging the Hatch Lot parking lot.

5. Next meeting – April 7, at The River House.

6. Announcements and other discussion

7. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Merrow to adjourn at 9:09 pm, seconded by Ms. Gleeson, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon A. Goyette  
Recording Secretary

- Spreadsheet of property trails and GPS needs
- Spreadsheet of property characteristics