

**East Haddam**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**Forestry and Stewardship Sub-committee**

April 20, 2016

Adopted May 11, 2016

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Forestry and Stewardship sub-committee of the East Haddam Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, April 20, 2016, at 7:05 PM at Todd and Charlotte Gelston's residence on Bogel Road. The Chairperson being in the Chair and the Secretary being Present.

a. Roll Call

Marilyn Gleeson, Charlotte Gelston, Todd Gelston, Joe Zaid, Paul Sienna, Rob Smith.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Smith to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Ms. Gelston and unanimously approved.

3. Old Business

a. Reprints and new prints of the trail guide

The Harris property map will include the new extension of the white trail. Ms. Gleeson will change the geodetic marking on Davison to read 364 feet. On the Davison map, Ms. Gleeson will remove the reference to Cave Hill, and will note that the trail takes a hiker to the location of where there was a WWII observation tower. The geodetic disk is located near the highest point on the property. The Chapal Farm map will need to be remapped as a new trail is being added. The new maps and revised prints should be ready to go to the printer after the changes are incorporated. The printer lead time is about a week. Mr. Smith has not reached out to Mr. Casner, chair of the EDC to cover the printing. Deb Denette, Town Clerk, noted that people have commented they miss having a trail booklet. Mr. Gelston and others noted that the reason why the booklet was not recreated is due to the fact that new trails are being added all the time. Ms. Gleeson will take over from Ms. Gelston the restocking of maps at properties and various locations in town (Balleks, the East Haddam Free Public Library, Nathan Hale Pharmacy, Grand View Campground, Staehleys and the Town Hall).

b. Projects and Project Priority

Mr. Gelston provided the project priority list. Mr. Smith noted that due to the rock movement activity at the Harris property, he talked with Mr. Walter about using the rocks. They will come in handy at Patrell (2 loads), Lena (4 or 5 loads), Rose Farm (4 total – 2 loads on each side), and Boot Rock (2 loads) to help prevent vehicle access. In addition, there was an offer of 2 tractor trailer loads of wood chips, which could come in handy at Rose Farm and Hatch Lot (the connector from the parking lot to the blue trail) to address some wet areas.

c. Project Detail Planning

Davison was listed as priority #3, but was moved up the list due to the weather and the need to clear the vista.

Sabine is the 2<sup>nd</sup> priority; a new trail needs to be added, a trail needs to be revised, and the bridge needs to be moved. Mr. Gelston advised IWCC that the bridge needs to be moved and will let them know when that move will happen. The trails need to be repainted.

Davison is priority #3, and there's already been much work underway. It will be removed from the property priority list until the fall.

Lena is the 4<sup>th</sup> priority and needs trails established, as well as parking. A kiosk is also needed. Roaring Brook is the 5<sup>th</sup> priority. Trails are needed as well as boundaries need to be tagged and blazed.

Harris property is the 6<sup>th</sup> priority. Boundary blazing has been finished. The white trail needs to be extended. The kiosks need to be installed, and Mr. Zaid has them ready to build. Parking should be done by month's end. A small bridge is needed as well.

Dean is the 7<sup>th</sup> priority. The signs have been removed to be redone. The parking has been roughed out and some millings have been dropped. Mr. Zaid has 2 small kiosks ready to be installed. The fence needs to be moved as well.

Rose Farm is the 8<sup>th</sup> priority. The southern boundary needs to be marked. Mr. Smith and Mr. Sienna will investigate the marker and where it should be located. The east side needs to have briars cleared regularly. Rose Farm will be moved up on the priority list ahead of Sabine.

Lefebvre is #9. The Scouts cleaned up 4 truck loads of glass for Earth Day from an old glass dump. It is off of Jones Hill Road out by the Hopyard.

Zelevnick is #10. The CC needs to get TNC approval to put in a loop trail. The parking will need to go on the TNC property across the street and to the east, which is part of the original agreement.

Urbanik is #11. It does not need to be reblazed, as Ms. Gleeson and Mr. Zaid addressed that. The kiosk needs to be refurbished and moved closer to the road. The map needs to be created for the kiosk.

Town Beach is #12. There are some boundaries tagged but need to be addressed.

Shugrue is #13. It needs to be addressed in the fall as it's the largest property.

d. Saturday Work Afternoon Tasks and Schedule

Chapal Farm is priority 1 and will be the next work party focus on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The following will occur at the April 30 workparty:

- Three small foot bridges need to be built.
- The kiosk will be installed; Mr. Zaid will have the frame ready.
- Mr. Smith talked with Mr. Ventres about getting the boundary near the parking lot re-surveyed and a fence can be installed.
- Signs that show where the entrance is located need to be installed.
- The bollard installations will not be addressed during the April 30 work party.
- Mr. Smith will flag the new section of the blue trail.

e. Davison Stewardship Report from the Community Lions

The downed trees that the Community Lions noted need to be addressed. Mr. Smith will try to address this weekend.

f. Other

Mr. Gelston asked about the Guggenheim gardening request. Mr. Smith will reach out to the family to determine if they are still interested in using the Harris property.

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4. New Business

a. Other

The budget was approved by the Board of Finance with no discussion. It is now scheduled for a Town Meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a referendum on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

5. Announcements and other discussion

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shannon A. Goyette  
Recording Secretary

- Conservation Commission Stewardship Project Priority