

## Horse Hill Nature Preserve

### Meeting Minutes, April 29, 2019

In attendance: Peter Makolajcuk, Cindy Glenn, Tim Adams, Bruce Peterson, Don Laliberte, Rose Shajenko and Sharon Hickey

1. Call to order by Peter.
2. Agenda item 2C. Recent boardwalk improvement and bridge repair.
  - a. Don & Bruce made repairs to a bridge. Peter will try to obtain more 10' boards for repairs identified by Don & Bruce.
  - b. Tim & Peter organized a "trail day" on facebook which resulted in 12 HHNP users volunteering. The group made 2 repairs to existing boardwalk and constructed 1 brand new bridge.
3. Agenda item 2A. Unauthorized trail building.
  - a. Tim witnessed 2 adolescent males who were diverting an existing trail to make a bike ramp/jump.
  - b. This activity needs to be documented. In the future when this type of activity is witnessed, take a picture, go to the nearest parking lot and call the Merrimack Police to report unauthorized trail building on HHNP.
  - c. Cindy will bring this issue to the MCC to ask about getting a sign posted which prohibits "unauthorized trail building".
4. Beaver report & continued expansion/activity. Don expressed concern about the growing beaver population at Horse Hill. The MCC invited a beaver expert to view the expanding beaver habitat. In the subsequent report, Dr. ????? states that the beavers are acting out of instinct and will move on only when their food source is eliminated. There is no known remedy to force the beaver out of the area.
5. Approval of meeting minutes for...
  - a. 2/4/2019. Motion brought by Tim. Motion seconded by Cindy. Passed unanimously.
  - b. 2/25/2019. Motion brought by Peter. Motion seconded by Tim. Passed unanimously.
6. Referring to item 8 in 2/25/2019 meeting minutes, related to the presentation to the MCC regarding affairs of the HHNP. Don wants to ensure that the HHNP is prepared to fulfill this requirement. Peter & Cindy are to inquire to the MCC about this requirement and will obtain specific details as to the scope of the presentation.
7. Merrimack's town budget. Does the MCC have a specific line item within the town's budget? Cindy will make this inquiry to the MCC.
8. Need to develop a budget. There is a current need to replace a significant number of trail marking poles.
  - a. Discussion ensued about the need to formulate a budget in order to develop new projects and provide continued deferred maintenance on existing items.
9. Current educational events.
  - a. Tim A will host 2 nature walks. 5/11 at 10:00 to examine wildflowers on HorseHill AND on 5/26 at 10:00 to watch the ospreys from afar.
  - b. To be held at Grater Woods, the Vernal Pools.

- c. MCC will host Seedling Day at Courier Orchards on 5/11.
- 10. Endurance bike rider, Ryan St. Lawrence. Peter will make contact with rider to request that he discontinue the use of a motorized wheeled vehicle at HHNP.
- 11. Motion to adjourn by Rose and seconded by Sharon.
- 12. Next meeting July 8, 2019.