



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

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Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

WILDCAT FALLS CONSERVATION AREA SUBCOMMITTEE JANUARY 24, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present:

- Rebecca Brenton
- Andrew Duane
- Elizabeth Petrides
- Tim Tenhave

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Memorial Conference Room.

Public Comments:

1. No public comments.

New Business:

1. Sponsored activities at the park.
 - Rebecca's sister is a bird enthusiast and member of the NH Audubon Society. She has offered to host a birdwatching day. Date to be determined based on weather and bird species. Tim added that a local resident, Chris Christensen told him of a local resident who is also interested.
2. Rebecca contacted the Merrimack Journal newspaper about publishing an article on the park.
 - The paper is effectively "self-serve". If we provide a publication-ready article, it will be published.
 - Rebecca and Andrew will work on putting an article together to be published as soon as practical. A suggestion was made to publish a small article this winter, and another larger one in early spring as the park "blooms".
 - Elizabeth will provide some winter photos of the park for the article.
3. Tim presented the recent work by the Nashua Regional Planning Commission that did a complete GPS mapping of the Wildcat Falls park trail system. This map needs to be reconciled with the existing Google Map of the park
 - The new map includes several trails that have been retired or removed from the park trail system. These need to be removed from the NRPC map. Andrew and Tim will work on reconciling the maps.

- Trail names need to be corrected and reconciled. Andrew and Tim will work on this.
 - The google map should have the Michael LoVerme Memorial Foundation "MLMF" benches added to it. The incorrectly marked intersection will also be updated in preference to removing and replacing the physical sign. A new map link will need to be provided for the town website. Andrew will do this.
 - All printed maps for all area parks will be standardized to the tri-fold format with the NRPC map on one side of the paper and park information on the reverse side.
4. An early spring day will be chosen and publicized for thinning foliage in the parking lot area and other light trail work.
- A notice should be given to Amy Casparius so the day can be published on the town website.
 - No minutes need be taken if no committee decisions are made.
 - Elizabeth will reach out to the LoVerme foundation for volunteers.
 - Other potential work item: add more blazes/markers to the trail
5. Next meeting to be scheduled for the 4th week in February.

Old Business:

1. Dog bag dispenser approved, but need to find guaranteed biodegradable refill bags. Andrew will research and report on cost and availability.
2. Karen called the town DPW about several work items:
 - Need to mow the meadow.
 - Need to clear the crosscut trail from the drainage pond to the sand pit for emergency vehicle access.
 - Gage Perry will be coordinating with DPW for all town properties.
3. Social Media:
 - Elizabeth explained about the facebook page for Wildcat Falls. It is an automatically generated page based on existing user tags. We need to get control of the page to use it directly for park activities and media. Elizabeth to follow up on procedures to do so.
 - Gina Rosatti from the Conservation Commission likes facebook and would be willing to help out on various uses.
4. Tim and Karen noted that the park's gmail account needs to be monitored more regularly. Andrew will do this.

Meeting Minutes:

November 15, 2016 draft minutes were not present for approval.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Andrew, seconded by Elizabeth; Motion carried: 4-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45.