



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

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Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

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Grater Woods Subcommittee

MEETING Minutes

November 5, 2013

Meeting started at 6:37PM

7 members were in attendance. Adam Dodge, Joe Cogan, Matt Caron, Nathaniel Fairbanks, Roger Blais, Shannon Barnes, and Steve Desilets.

Members missing were Tom Lehman, Ron Davies and Steve Bachand.

On the subject for voting in the key positions:

Matt Caron was nominated to be the chair.

-votes were cast and Matt was voted in as chair with 6 yes, 0 declines and 1 abstain.

Vice chair nomination was Nat Fairbanks with 6 yes, 0 declines and 1 abstain.

Steve Desilets was nominated and voted in as meeting note taker with 6 yes, 0 declines and 1 abstain.

Meeting frequency:

The group discussed that in the beginning we should attempt to meet monthly to get us started with the projects documented in the charter.

Our next 2 meetings were agreed to be 12/3/13 and 1/7/14.

We reviewed the charter and discussed the projects that were listed. Reviewing the priorities the Conservation committee had already identified and started the process for some of the projects, our subcommittee will bring them to conclusion.

Red Maple Bridge:

We discussed a bridge project to cross the stream below the beaver dam near Beebe Lane on the Red Maple trail. The work is to begin/complete on Dec 6th and expected to complete on Dec 7th. This bridge will replace the current crossing on Red Maple near Beebe Lane which was being accomplished by using a downed tree that is across the stream. The plan is to submit the fund requirements to build a bridge (approx. 24 feet?) to span across the stream. The start and end of the bridge location has been identified so the next steps are to submit the proposal. The sub-committee voted to have Matt Caron complete the fund request as he is familiar with the process.

Gateway Hill bridge:

The second project to be undertaken is the bridge at the bottom of gateway hill. The bridge is for a type A trail system and will cross what is becoming a wetland. The bridge is to span approx. 30-35 feet and be wide enough for walkers/bikers and ATV traffic (no vehicle/4X4 traffic).

The subcommittee also discussed potential re-routes for gateway hill due to its drainage issues during heavy rains. It was discussed that this would require more review but we would move forward with the bridge.

Gates for grater road and Beebe Lane.

Discussed that the woods road is deemed for emergency access. 2 gates are purposed for Grater road, one near the Amherst line off of Grater road and one located near the shooting range.

Meeting ended at 8PM.