



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information**, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: October 1, 2020

Date of Meeting: October 29, 2020

Submitted by: Sarah Hardy

Department:

Time Required: 20 minutes

Speakers: Sarah Hardy

Background Info. Supplied: Yes: No:

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Presentation

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The Town Council to be presented with and consider the approval of Girl Scout Sarah Hardy's proposed project to construct and install long phone stand/props along trails in Horse Hill Nature Preserve, Grater Woods and Twin Bridge Park.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	Warrant Article:	_____
Charter Article:	Town Meeting:	_____
Other:	N/A	

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Sarah Hardy Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address shcampobello@icloud.com

APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes No: Chair/Vice Chair: Yes No:



Selfie Stands

By: Sarah Hardy



Selfie Stand

- Gold Award- a community service project that helps give back to your community, 80 hours
- Selfie Stands- stand that allow you to prop up your phone and take pictures without it having to be a selfie
- Story Idea
- Conservation Commission



Stand Outline

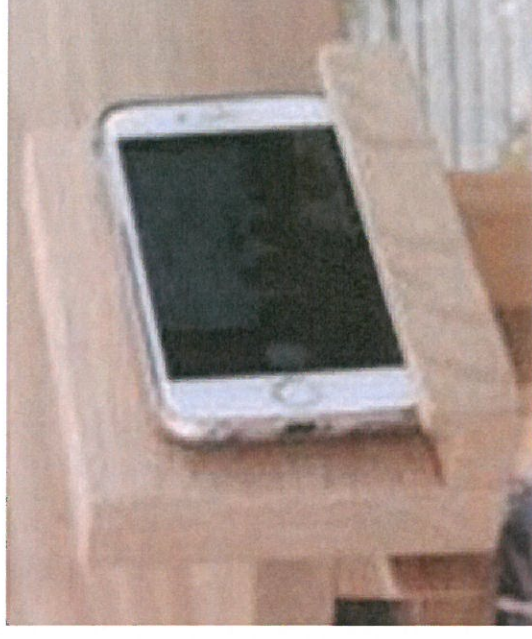
Stand:

- Back stand: 4 to 5in tall and 6.5 to 7in long
- Bottom of stand: 1inx1in and 6.5 to 7in long
- Front block: 0.5inx1in and 6.5 to 7 in long
- Pole: 4inx4in and 8-9ft tall

Wood:

Idea 1: Make stands out of cedar- long lasts and durable

Idea 2: Make out of a cheaper wood and paint dark green like trail markers



Stand Outline cont.

In ground:

Idea 1: Put into the ground 3-4 feet and fill partial with cement then fill the rest back with soil

Idea 2: Put into the ground 3-4 feet and fill with gravel and top with soil

Welcome to any other ideas that you guys might prefer



Stand Locations

Trails:

- Horse Hill Nature Preserve
- Grater Woods
- Twin Bridge Park Path



Horse Hill Stand Two



The view



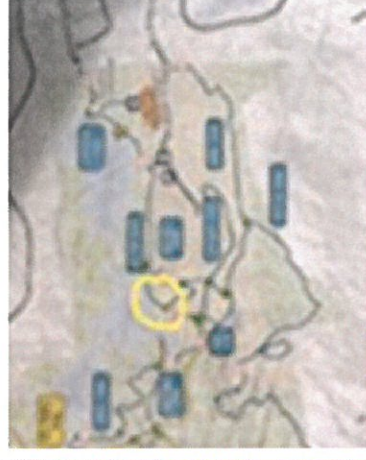
Stand Location



Map



Grater Woods Stand



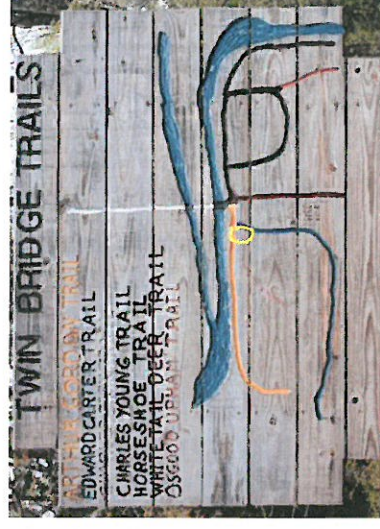
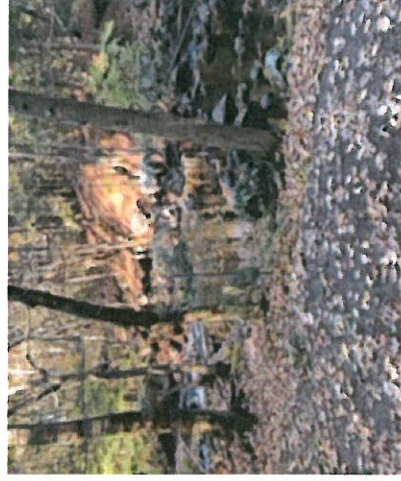
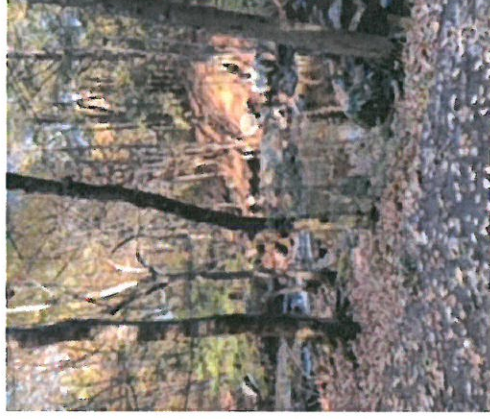
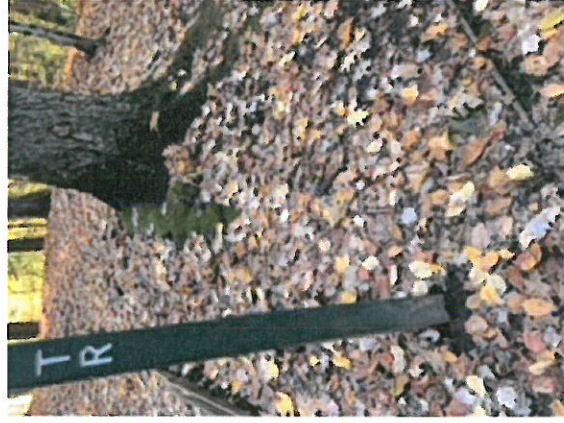
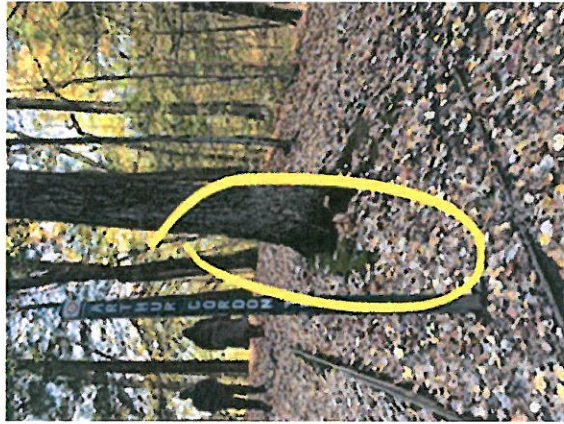
Stand Location

The View

Map



Twin Bridge Stand One



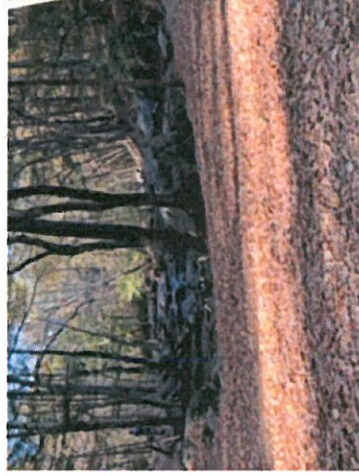
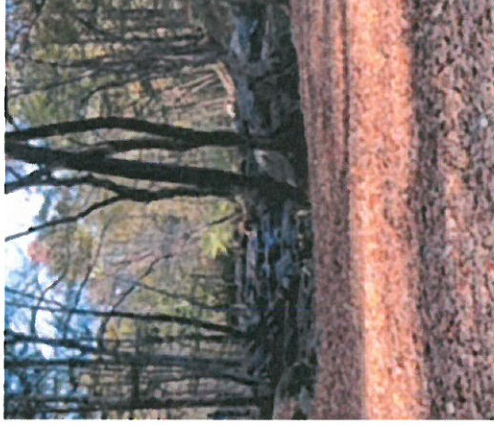
Stand Location

The View

Map



Twin Bridge Stand Two



Stand Location

The View

Map



Cost

Funding coverage:

- Grant: The Girl Scout Council has a certain amount of money to give out for projects and I can apply for a grant and get money to cover part of my project
 - Fundraising: Along with the grant, I can fundraise to cover the rest of the cost. I have a few other girls in my troop that are doing their gold award also. We have been brainstorming some fundraiser ideas and we can do them together.
-

Cost cont.

Cedar wood: Due to Covid wood prices have raised. For example, if we use cedar and its at its highest average price it could be around \$300 for all 5 stands

Anchor Cement: around \$13

Gravel: around \$25

Paint: around \$50-\$100

Prices will vary and certain costs will be cut out when final plan is decided

APPOINTMENTS - None

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS

- 1. Bowers Landing of Merrimack, LLC (applicant/owner)** – Review for recommendation to the Planning Board for a site plan to construct 72 multi-family residential units in Phase VII of the Harris Pond Planned Unit Development. The parcel is located off of Bower’s Landing Drive in the I-1 (Industrial) and Aquifer Conservation District. Tax Map 1D, Lot 1-4.

Matthew Peterson, Senior Project Manager, Keach Nordstrom Associates, Inc., displayed a diagram depicting the lot (can be viewed [here](#); beginning at tape counter 8:00). The project consists of 3 four-story buildings (garden style). The construction of the 72 units represents the last phase of the overall project. Upon completion, the project will consist of 3 different types of residential uses; garden style, single-family, and townhouse.

Over the past 20 years, 12-22’ of fill has been placed in the area (originally designed to be a multi-family use all the way through). The project includes the digging out of an oversized infiltration pond. Mr. Peterson described how runoff would be addressed from the different areas of the site. There are no wetlands associated with the current phase of the project. Erosion jute mattings will be utilized on any slopes greater than 3/1. A silt sock will be laid around the perimeter.

Runoff associated with the project comes from 3 different areas. The area identified on the drainage report as A, had approximately 10.69 CFS pre-construction. Because of what exists for soils and the separation from the groundwater, the post-construction amount is 5.49 CFS.

Commissioner Rosati noted reference to both no phosphorous and low phosphorous. Mr. Peterson responded reference to low phosphorous was in error. The plan should indicate no phosphorous in all areas.

Commissioner Tenhave questioned if water currently coming off the site is expected to recharge the Pennichuck system or does it flow out somewhere else and permeate into the ground. Mr. Peterson commented on the fill that currently exists noting a lot of that is running off and not being treated, etc. For him, it was much more conducive to put it into the ground where it would still get to the brook. The direction of the water is not being changed. The plan is going to NHDES. They are not changing the dynamics of the runoff.

Commissioner Tenhave questioned where the outlet is, should there be an event that causes the pond to fill. Mr. Peterson stated there is an emergency overflow. Should the elevation rise above the 199.75 it would overflow. Currently the top of the berm for a ten-year storm is at 199.55. There is some that goes over the emergency spillway for the twenty-five year storm (hits 198.98). Commissioner Tenhave commended them for creating such a space and having it large enough to get the water back in the ground.

Commissioner Rosati noted the only recommendation to be to correct the reference to low phosphorous.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Girl Scout Gold Award project – Sarah Hardy, Troop 10375**

Sarah Hardy, Troop 10375, stated she has completed her bronze and silver awards, and is working towards her gold award. Her proposed project is to construct long phone stands/props that can be located along key points

of the trails in Merrimack. Phone props would allow users of the trails to be able to capture photos of individuals and the surrounding scenery.

She spoke of an instance where she witnessed teenagers in Wildcat Falls attempting to capture a photo near a ledge. The girls were leaning pretty far over to capture the photo they desired. She would like to provide a safer way for people to capture those type of photos.

She has considered constructing the stands out of cedar. The desire is for the stands to fit in with the surroundings. Necessary supplies would be purchased with funds hoped to be gained through fundraising and grant applications.

She suggested creating a site where individuals could share their photos or a QR code survey that could be placed on the phone stands for posting of questions about the stands, e.g., if people liked the idea, suggestions for locations, notification of any damage, etc.

Asked which properties she was looking at for placement of the stands, Girl Scout Hardy stated she would be pleased to follow the recommendations of the Commission. She spoke of the Wildcat Falls, Horse Hill Nature Preserve (HHNP), and the middle school trail. The intent would be perhaps 3 per trail.

Commissioner Boisvert noted Wildcat Falls is currently closed. Commissioner Rosati commented on erosion concerns near the waterfall at Wildcat Falls, and the desire to keep users from that area. She commented on the area near the river at the Sklar property. Commissioner Boisvert suggested the deck off the cul-de-sac on Beebe Lane that overlooks the beaver pond.

Asked to describe the stands, Girl Scout Hardy remarked she was considering something a bit smaller than the size of a normal iPhone and having the ability to turn back and forth and slide up and down to accommodate different individuals. The intent would be for the stand to be a few feet tall.

Asked how the stands would be made permanent, she stated the intent for them to be dug into the ground. She was uncertain if the stands could be chained in place.

Commissioner Swisher suggested locating the stands at sites that have already been established as a viewpoint.

**MOTION BY CHAIR PERKINS TO APPROVE GIRL SCOUT SARAH HARDY'S GOLD AWARD PROJECT TO PLACE PAINTED PHONE STANDS/PROPS ALONG THE HIKING TRAILS IN GRATER WOODS, THE HORSE HILL NATURE PRESERVE, AND WASSERMAN PARK
MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROSATI**

ON THE QUESTION

Commissioner Boisvert expressed his opinion the Sklar Waterfront Park is not yet ready for stands. The deck area in Grater Woods would be a nice location. Commissioner Swisher commented on other locations within Grater Woods, e.g., wildlife view points (where benches are located).

Asked about the total number of stands that would be placed, Girl Scout Hardy remarked 2-3 on the trails designated by the Commission. Commissioner Swisher suggested one stand at each property in an area where other amenities exist. Asked for clarification, Girl Scout Hardy indicated she had envisioned 2-3 per trail; Grater Woods (deck area), HHNP (near beaver pond), along the full loop of the HHNP, which has an area where a bench is already located. Although closed at the moment, Wildcat Falls has areas (rock layouts) where people stop and rest. In total, she would be looking at approximately 6 stands. Asked who would receive and

respond to the survey, she indicated she would do a Google form that could perhaps be linked to the Commission's website and/or email. Commissioner Tenhave spoke of the need to ensure the information could be reviewed and responded to.

Commissioner Rosati commented with all of the attention that Wildcat Falls has received, she is somewhat uncomfortable with the idea of a survey. She is supportive of the idea of the survey, but not at this time. She questioned what the depth of the post should be, and if concrete would be needed to secure it. Commissioner Swisher remarked although he was not wanting to see concrete used, he would be concerned with the posts being removed/vandalized.

Asked if the project would be required to be presented to the Town Council, Councilor Albert stated his belief the Council would like to see some type of description relative to materials to be utilized, plans for installation, etc.

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Commissioner Rosati, Commissioner Boisvert, Commissioner Glenn, Commissioner Swisher,
Councilor Albert, Chair Perkins, Commissioner Starr
7

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

2. Concept Planning for Amherst-Merrimack Trail - Christopher Buchanan, Chair of the Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Relative to Girl Scout Sarah Hardy's proposed project, Christopher Buchanan, Chair, Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (Committee), commented on a project done in Amherst that involved putting posts in the ground. He suggested consideration of cedar posts that are put in the ground between 1.5-3'. If using that material and depth, the posts would not corrode or require use of cement.

Mr. Buchanan stated the Committee put together a Master Plan that was approved by the Board of Selectmen last July. They looked to create a town-wide vision for how they could increase access. The two-fold plan is to improve roadways, particularly while under construction, and to provide trails that serve a transport function; longer trails that connect points of interest. Consideration is being given to the placement of trails along the Eversource transmission lines that expand from the area of 101A past Souhegan High School and eventually into Merrimack and through the HHNP. The Committee has been working to determine the process necessary to do this. They have done a lot of research and had communication with Eversource.

This particular corridor has a lot of mixed ownership; some owned outright by Eversource, several parcels owned by private landowners (Eversource easements). Being sought is the ability to provide private landowners an opportunity to participate in formation of public trails. The Committee is seeking assistance from other organizations including the Amherst Land Trust, to interface with the private land owners to seek formal trail agreements for this proposed trail.

Commissioner Boisvert commented on powerline rights-of-way having a lot of ATV traffic, and questioned if that is true of the area in question, and what the intent would be in regard to addressing that.

Mr. Buchanan responded he cannot speak for other trails, but does not believe the explicit intent would be to have motor traffic. It is becoming harder to define. In the past, you would just say non-motorized use;