

WILDCAT FALL SUBCOMMITTEE

(of the Merrimack Conservation Commission)

Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2015

Committee Members Present:

- Karen LaBonte
- Andrew Duane
- Jane Josselyn
- Rebecca Brenton

Also present from the Michael LoVerme Foundation:

- Justin Ruddock
- Liz Petrides
- Jeff Christiansen
- Cliff and Eileen LoVerme

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM in the Merrimack Town Hall, Community Development Room

New Business:

1. Discuss scope of work for installing signs and other markers in spring. This includes necessary trail maintenance.
 - a. The Foundation will be helping with all activities.
 - b. It was agreed that all materials are to be provided by the sub-committee, purchased with the approved budget from the Merrimack Conservation Commission. Volunteers are for labor and hand tools only.
 - c. The originally scheduled date of April 18 to meet at the park for spring work was moved due to heavy winter snow. The next on-site work date of June 20 was moved to June 6 at 9 AM due to schedule conflicts.
 - d. The first on-site work date of April 18 will still be held, to tour the park for winter damage, post and marker placement options, and to allow members of the Foundation to scout locations for a memorial bench.
 - e. It was agreed to advertise the work dates both on the town website and through any Wildcat Falls social media channels.
 - f. The Foundation shared several local unofficial trail names, and a discussion of names was held. The possibility of renaming a trail in honor of Michael LoVerme was brought up. The North Loop Trail may be renamed "M Lo Trail", pending decision by the Foundation.

2. Discuss location and design of possible benches within the park.
 - a. Benches should be natural and suitable for the landscape. Designs from other natural areas were discussed, made from down trees and on-site stone. Locations will be scouted, but construction and installation will be deferred until after required maintenance and signpost installation is complete.
 - b. The Foundation would like to consider the purchase or construction of a specific memorial bench to be placed within the park. If said bench is ready by the June 6 date, it will be installed then.

Old Business:

1. Announcement of the acceptance of the maps, signs, and formats by the Merrimack Conservation Commission.
 - a. A large format (18x24) laminated map will be mounted on the entrance kiosk. This map will be commercially printed. Suggestions were taken for additional information to be included on this map, given the additional size and space available.
 - b. Small tri-fold (8.5x11) maps will be provided in a dispenser at the kiosk. These will be printed directly by the town. The electronic artwork is kept on file by the town for reprinting and archiving. Andrew will work with the town to coordinate.
 - c. The format and design of trail signs and posts were approved.
 - d. Trail blaze markers will be provided when needed.
 - e. An approximate budget of \$250 was approved for all materials.

Committee Member Comments:

- Karen will contact the Merrimack DPW to investigate sewer line location along the main trail, to avoid accidental strike during post installation.
- Karen will contact the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss painting of the water level monitoring shed along the riverbank on the west side of the park.
- Rebecca will investigate the creation of a Facebook page for Wildcat Falls, and will set such page up. Pictures should be sent to her for inclusion.
- Andrew will contact Pets Choice to investigate dog waste bag dispenser design and supplies.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Andrew; Seconded by Rebecca; Motion carried: 4-0-0.
Meeting adjourned at 7:45