

LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2005, 4:00 P.M.
ACTON TOWN HALL

Present: Tom Tidman, Bob Guba, Cyril Murphy, Maura Herlihy, Gigi Hopkins, Peggy Liversidge, Linda McElroy, Jim Snyder-Grant, Paul Wasserboehr, Nan Millett, Philip Keyes, Joan Cirillo, Ann Shubert (minute taker)

Meeting Minutes: The November minutes were approved with no changes.

Parcel Needs: Grassy Pond is in need of field mowing. Bob Guba will call Jimmy Young to ask if he would be willing to mow the field.

Blazing: Cyril fixed up the blazing on a few intersections at Bulette. Gigi has the colors to do Jenks. Jim said that the Town Forest also needs some blazing, specifically the blue trail.

Tom will have the Town staff router some signs – canoe launch, arboretum, ten single arrows and some double arrows.

Guggins Boardwalks: Although others helped, mainly Bob and Andy built 60' of boardwalks for the Guggins Conservation land..

Jim will talk with Tom Napoli as he has been having great success with deer fencing. The Napolis want to put more deer fencing on the Acton side of their fields.

Jenks: A letter was sent to Bill Kalms regarding the blazing removal at Jenks. Gigi or Cyril will reblaze at Jenks in the spring.

Nagog: There has been some leaf dumping onto Nagog Conservation Land. Tom talked with the Superintendent of Grounds at the Quail Ridge golf course regarding the deposited leaves. The Superintendent said he would instruct the grounds crew not to deposit any more leaves on town property.

Stolen Tools: Paul Wasserboehr was working at Mt. Hope cemetery when some of his tools were stolen.

New grass whip: Gigi has secured a new lightweight grass whip.

Hunters: Bow hunters were encountered at Guggins Brook conservation land. The hunters claimed to be hunting coyote. They were informed that no hunting is allowed on Acton conservation or municipal properties.

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, Jim has filed the 2005 minutes with the Town Clerk.

The Cemetery Department will install a new gate at the entrance to Will's Hole as soon as possible.

Tomorrow there will be a public meeting regarding the status of Acton Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (CWRMP). It is anticipated that the agenda will center on proposals to expand sewers to service "high needs" areas of town identified in the CWRMP. Jim will speak as a private citizen regarding the possibility of using the Wetherbee fields as a wastewater discharge zone, which the Town is considering in connection with a possible solution for East Acton. Joan Cirillo will also be present at the meeting as a private citizen. Joan and Jim noted that the deed that conveyed the land to the town contains a reversion clause saying all 72 acres revert to the state if used other than "for conservation purposes." In addition, the soil in its present undisturbed condition is prime agricultural land.

Stone chamber: Linda went to the CPC for a preliminary hearing to see if the stone chamber was a viable project. It is. There will be a site walk of the area on Sunday, December 11 at 10:30 am. People will meet at the monument company parking lot and will be ferried around to Saw Mill Road (first right hand turn into Northbriar). After surveying the chamber area, Linda will point out nearby works, such as the bridge, which was built by the Land Stewardship Committee. The return to the parked cars will be via the railroad bed thus giving an idea of the extent of the project.

MFRC: Linda gave a report of the last meeting of MFRC. At this meeting icons were moved around Alison Gallagher's foam core model of the Morrison property. The next meeting will be held on December 14 at Town Hall. At that meeting Linda will give a presentation of the Stewardship Farm Committee ideas for a farm on the property.

Guidebook: Bob said that some people in NH were preparing a guidebook and wanted to know what our guidebook cost and how it was distributed. Nan said it was at Town Hall and three other places. Jim is going to speak to the manager of EMS to see if they would be willing to sell the book at their store.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 4 pm on January 11, 2006.