

Land Stewardship Committee Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2006, 4:00 P.M.  
Acton Town Hall

Present: Nan Millett, Gigi Hopkins, Jim Snyder-Grant (chair), Maura Herlihy, Tom Tidman, Philip Keyes, Bob Guba, Rich Rhode, Laurie Ullmann, Peggy Liversidge, Joan Cirillo, Bettina Abe, Ann Shubert (minute-taker)

Meeting Minutes: The November minutes were approved.

Projects: Bob asked for a lumber purchase for the other side of Heath Hen bridge. The cost will be about \$60. The purchase was voted and approved.

The boardwalk near the parking lot at the Nagog Cons. Area was improved by moving and nailing one of the stringers.

Jim will talk to stewards regarding their parcels and possible projects for those parcels.

Joan, Bob, and Phil will tag the trail from Nagog Hill to 2A. The people at Quail Ridge Country Club will cut the trail.

The blazing at Jenks has been completed. The blue blazes were removed where the trail crosses the tracks.

Education and Publicity: Suggestions were made for future talks. Bob suggested someone might speak on stonewalls; Philip suggested we contact Sibley to speak on birds; Gigi suggested that John Rogers could do a bluebird talk; Jim suggested an overnight camp-out at Camp Acton with an owl walk. This could be family oriented. The Recreation Department could be enlisted to help. Laurie has done pancake breakfasts in the past and he might be able to help in that capacity. Late September (possibly when there is a full moon) might be a good time for such an event. Rich and Jim will check into this.

Committee Logistics: Linda has left the Land Stewardship Committee. She will continue to work on the Morrison Farm project and will wrap up the Stone Chamber project. She may work through the historic commission on other projects. Philip suggested planting a tree in honor of Linda as she has done so much as the first chairman of the committee. Others suggested a bench or other object. Members are asked to think over what would be best and to have their suggestion ready for the next meeting.

Choosing a Chairman: The Conservation Committee did set up some rules for the LSCom such as people serving for 3 yr. terms on the Committee. However, they did not set up rules for choosing a Chairman. Bob is in favor of carrying on as is and others agreed. Jim was elected as Chair for a 3 year term.

Policy: How do you define maintenance for a meadow? The Grassy Pond meadow has been cleared to the stone wall on the back side. Gigi said the needs of wildlife should be determined. Thickets create cover and are good for rodents, birds, and so forth. England has lost lots of birds because they cut down the thicket lines of meadows. The Audubon Society has booklets on field management. Gigi thinks it is good that the meadow is

cleared to the wall in the back but would like to see the other three sides of the meadow remain as is. She suggested that a census be taken of the birds at the Grassy Pond meadow in the spring and in the winter.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on January 10 at 4:00 PM.