

LAND USE COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2016 at 7:00 pm Town Hall

Members Present: Sharon Cutler, Anne Mazar, Peter Coffin, Barry Iadarola

Guests: Kevin Rudden, John Gomersall, Bill Diaki, Ryan Oliva, Mary Anne Murphy, Derek Markle and Carl Hommel

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Anne Mazar.

Minutes from the 5/16/16 meeting were reviewed. **Motion:** Barry moved that the minutes from 5/16/16 be approved as written. Sharon seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous approval of the Committee.

Discussion took place on the Land Steward program with those present. **Motion:** Sharon moved that Bill Dakai and Ryan Oliva be appointed volunteer Land Stewards of the Mendon Town Forest; Patrice Murphy and Peter de Jong be appointed volunteer Land Stewards for Meadow Brook Uplands. The motion was seconded by Peter. The motion passed with a majority vote of the committee. Barry abstained.

CMRPC is helping the Land Use committee develop a map for the Quissett Wildlife Management Area/Inman Hill Wildlife Conservation Area map. The committee make suggestions to the draft of the map and added trail names. Posting signs on the trails to match the map was also discussed. Anne will forward the changes to CMRPC.

Bill Dakai updated the committee on the work being done in the Mendon Town Forest, the volunteer hours needed to support the grant received. A 10' x 80' parking lot is being established off of Millville Road for those who wish to enjoy the Forest hiking. The date of 10/15/16 has been set for a hiking tour to help celebrate the 350th anniversary of the Town.

Further discussion took place on other hikes that may be planned for other areas of the Town. Barry advised the committee that archery hunting season would begin Columbus Day weekend and the hikes should be scheduled around hunting season. Sharon agreed to forward Kevin and Jonathan Dudley's email addresses (co-chairs of the 350th committee).

A brief discussion took place on the possibly expanding the Wildlife Conservation Restriction on the former Wood property on the Old Quissett Road. No decision was made.

Discussion took place on the Forestry Plan for the Inman Hill Wildlife Conservation Area. No timber harvesting for income is planned other than habitat improvement. There will also be a focus on the removal of invasive plants.

Beaver damn on Lake Nipmuc is creating issues for the residents with rising lake water. Anne investigated the option of a Beaver Solution Control Device installation, where water can flow under the dam undetected by the beavers, flooding is prevented and the beavers could stay, but the device would not work at this site. Mike Callahan, who installs the devices, said that the beavers would have to be trapped by a licensed trapper. **Motion:** Barry moved that an amount not to exceed \$1,500 be used from the Mendon Land Bank Account to trap the beaver. Sharon seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous approval of the committee.

Founders Park is in need of maintenance in the form of mulch and spraying for the woolly adelgid pests on the hemlock trees. **Motion:** Peter moved that an amount not to exceed \$2,000 be used from the Founders Park maintenance account for park maintenance. Barry seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous approval of the committee.

Motion: Barry moved that the meeting be adjourned; the motion was seconded by Peter and passed with unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM

Submitted by Sharon Cutler
Secretary