

Mendon Town Forest Committee

Minutes of March 17, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1810. Present were Bill Dakai, Ryan Oliva, Paul Doucette, and Sue Barnett.

Meetings from prior meeting read; Ryan motioned to approve, Paul seconded, approved unanimously.

We reviewed the project description format Ryan developed for future volunteer activities in the forest. It names the project, its purpose and location with a map. It includes a list of goals we expect of the volunteer which include development of a proposal after a site visit with a committee member, a sketch, a list of materials, and their sources of donations. It also lists the committee's construction requirements. It was designed to encourage a more independent yet still guided approach to projects in the forest and can be easily tweaked to accommodate a number of different projects.

Bill showed a picture of what he and another volunteer did to further discourage visitors from going near the beaver dam. They constructed something similar to a horse jump with stacked logs and rocks.

Discussed proposed fundraiser and the need to approach the police chief and the BOS. Paul will make arrangements with the chief; they will also deliver copies of the map we had made for them and EMS when they meet. In meeting with BOS we also need to discuss the creation of an account for us to put money in should we raise any, as well as what should be done with the \$8000 forwarded us by the town.

Paul expressed concern over the History he continues to tweak. We agreed that it was a "living document" that can be revised and updated as needed.

Ryan also brought a copy of the QR code he developed for putting on the maps. Abby Barnett will make vinyl copies from the file. She will also make 120 smaller "dots" for numbering intersections on the map.

Bill showed us the routed signs he has been making for the single-track trails and explained the history behind his choices; "Smokin' Joe", for example, is named after an ape that was popular at the zoo.

It was suggested by Sue that we pay Peter Brewer back (attorney fees from property) with any funds we raise FIRST before using for any maintenance. It was felt by all that he probably would not accept the money but agreed it should be offered in good faith. We were not able to reimburse him initially because the grant had not yet been approved.

Meeting adjourned at 1920.