

NCC Meeting 6/20/2022

Call meeting to order 8:05 pm at commission member Lauren Hill's residence

Present: J. Couture, C. Griffith, F. Hayden, J. Lent; L. Hill, D. Mason

1) Administrative Business

- a) Minutes 4/18/22 - C. Griffith motions to accept the minutes for April and May meetings, D. Mason seconds, all in favor YES.
- b) Treasurer's report - J. Couture motions to accept, C. Griffith seconds, all in favor YES.

2) New Business

- a) Signs for the Garden Club - They reached out to C. Griffith and J. Couture asking for signs
 - F. Hayden- Stated they also reached out to him
 - C. Griffith - Asked whose responsibility would it be to provide the signs
 - L. Hill - Mentioned that SELT monitors the land
 - F. Hayden - added that the town of Newfields owns the land but that SELT holds the easement and monitors it
 - C. Griffith - mentioned that we don't have any signs for Newfields Conservation property but that if they would like to put up some signs, he does not see the issue
 - L. Hill - asked if the signs would be Newfields Conservation Com. signs or SELT signs
 - J. Couture - asked where the garden club would like the signs
 - C. Griffith - mentioned that they would like to place them on the neighbors side of the property to stop people from exiting the conservation land onto private land and that he would reach out to SELT to inquire about signage
 - F. Hayden - mentioned that he was out at the site where the club was doing the work and did not notice any issues and that they appeared to be doing a good job
- b) Repair of the trail at the end of Halls Mills road
 - L. Hill - stated that the last 300' (est.) of the trail at the end of Halls Mills road, by Neal Mill road is in poor condition and could use repair. There are signs of ponding water, exposed roots, and general disrepair making it not easily passable. Additionally, L. Hill suggested applying for some type of trail grant and that she spoke with some people from SELT who agreed that something should be done to address the concerns on the trail.
 - J. Couture - asked if it was technically considered a road or a trail.
 - L. Hill - responded that it is a class A trail
 - J. Couture - suggested that Brian Knipstein may be a good person to approach for doing the work, and that the issue could be presented to the select board in order to utilize town funds to fix the trail.

- L. Hill - stated that we should get an estimate for the scope of work and attempt to fix the issue. Additionally, apply for a grant.
- C. Griffith - asked if the trail was unpassable at times.
- L. Hill - responded by explaining that it is passable and you can get around the obstacles but that the overall condition was poor.
- C. Griffith - stated that we should mention the issue to the select board and go from there and that he will contact the select board to get the issue on the agenda.
- L. Hill - stated that she would attend the meeting next week and bring up the issue, adding that the trail sees a lot of use.

3) Old Business

a) Daley Site Walk

- J. Couture - stated that the Daley Easement is a beautiful piece of land. He mentioned that the easement monitoring reports noted old farm equipment on site, and that from the site walk on 5/16/22 the board members can confirm as such.
- C. Griffith - stated that there was some additional plastic and general trash around the property as well.
- J. Couture - added that there were some tire piles in the woods. He mentioned that much of the farming equipment has been there since before the easement was written but that there is some new dumping as well. Suggested contacting the land owners and requesting that they clean up the newer trash around the site.
- J. Lent - stated that overall it didn't look too bad on the site walk and that it appeared as though a few things may have been addressed since the last monitoring report. He suggested that the NCC requests the select board to send a letter to the landowners requesting them to clean up any new/recent trash.
- C. Griffith - stated he will propose a draft letter to be shared with the select board, noting that there were some items such as a fan, an air conditioner, and other plastic that needs to be cleaned up from the easement.
- F. Hayden - suggested requesting the new trash to be cleaned up by October, 2022 or before the next monitoring report.
- J. Couture - motions to draft a letter expressing the noted concerns from last month's meeting/site visit at the Daley Easement, C. Griffith seconds, all in favor YES.

4) Mail

- a) General letter from SELT, their quarterly mailer.

- 5) Next meeting: NCC will be on recess for the months of July and August. The next meeting will be held 9/19/22 unless further notice.

Note: This month's minutes prepared by F. Hayden in lieu of L. Hill

Adjourned approximately 9:00 p.m.

NCC Member F. Hayden 8/24/2022

