

Present: Kim Houde, Rick Gardner, Deb Cary, Karen Rossow

Excused: Kelton Burbank

Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

1. Minutes from July were approved.
2. Bickford Pond: Project is completed, new signs posted by Rick and Tom Sullivan, and Dave Krashes has been notified.
3. Trail Around Princeton (TAP) update:
 - Marking of the trail:
 - i. Some discussion about this tonight. First, we question whether it makes sense to re-mark the mid-state section. Why not just keep Midstate markings (at least for now) and specify that TAP users follow the midstate trail (instead of adding new markings). Perhaps re-mark long term.
 - ii. We would need to mark other areas, like Leominster State Forest trails being used, as these are not currently marked.
 - iii. Might be best to use paint, perhaps with a template of a simplified TAP logo, rather than buying markers. Another option would be to create simple markers ourselves rather than purchasing them.
 - iv. We do not need to figure this out quite yet. Wait until we have some segments to mark.
 - Organization for meeting with Landowners:
 - i. Nothing to add to the lists we made at the last meeting.
 - ii. Rick mentioned that Justin Griffith has talked to Moshers. They are open to use of their wood trails but not sure they want to have them marked or publicly identified on maps. Also they do not see how we will connect to a road since the access both on the East Princeton Road and Gleason Road sides appears to be blocked by other landowners. We would still like to include Moshers in the first landowner meeting.
 - Kim is going to talk to Hays and see if they can help with access between the AT+T line or Mosher path and Gleason Road.
 - iii. More discussion about a possible 'trails committee' type organization. Rick expressed a concern: if we do not have a defined organization, how do we commit to trail oversight and maintenance when we talk to landowners? This is not a huge issue right now because we have few Princeton-owned trails (however trails at Boylston Park and Krashes field are not being maintained). We agreed that we should think through the role and responsibilities of a trail stewardship group.
 - We are still aiming for a small meeting with first few Landowners. This group is Jim Hillis, Dick Stuart, and Clayton Mosher. Kelton offered to set up a meeting with them. Once a date is set, Rick will draft a few slides for discussion purposes. See notes from last meeting.
4. Trails mapping project update: The new OSC website has been launched to a few people, such as the Hikes mailing list. Rick will send around a draft press release letting the townspeople know of the site. Then we will publish on Facebook and through the Landmark. OSC Members are asked to review the website info and pass comments to Rick.
5. Princeton Hikes! Program: Program is ongoing. Good attendance (normally 10-20 people). We have done eleven hikes to-date as scheduled. Rick and Karen have been leading these. People are very happy with the hikes and there has been a lot of positive feedback to OSC members.

- We reviewed the next four planned hikes in Oct/Nov. These will be publicized in the next couple of weeks.
 - We will have an Open Space booth at Hey Day and PrincetonFest. Karen will hold down the booth at PrincetonFest. We have volunteers for Hey Day taken from the Hikes group since Karen, Deb, and Rick are all otherwise occupied. Kim will try to be there as well.
 - We need to spend a little money for the displays at HeyDay and Princeton Fest. OSC voted to approve spending of \$40 for materials for Hey Day, which will be re-used at PrincetonFest. Also \$25 for the table fee at PrincetonFest.
6. Fieldstone Farm Update: Still waiting for final resolution of wetland plans. Brian reports that progress has been made but we are not quite ready to build trails yet. Rick will follow up with Brian.
- Funding grant unsuccessful. We will wait until the ConComm has developed wetland requirements before we start looking for other funding sources.
 - Rick needs to meet with the Hubbards to discuss connecting the Audubon trail to the new FF trails.
7. Other Business:
- Karen will check the Open Space plan to see when an update will be needed. We think we have a couple more years on the current plan.
 - Rick, Deb, and Karen attended CMRPC meeting to discuss collaboration across the region for mapping of trails. A lot of town reps were present and there was a lot of discussion about how we might proceed with a trail mapping process. No conclusion and next steps are not clear yet.
8. Next meeting: Wednesday October 11 or 18th. Rick will check on availability of the annex CR.
9. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Gardner