



P.O. Box 57 Durham, CT 06422-0057

Meeting Minutes for June 20, 2013

Attending:

Fred Mastele as Acting President of CHC, Laurie Giannotti, Jan Collins, Leslie Lewis, Ruth Beardsley, Diane Ciano

Excused: Meg Sautter

Guests: Ginger Tullai (CHC), Bunny Joseph (CHC)

Call to Order:

The meeting was held at the Northeast Utilities Building in Berlin. Meeting called to order at 6:50 pm by Fred.

Review Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes of March 21, 2013 were reviewed. No corrections. Motion by Leslie to accept. Fred seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

State Forest & Park Updates:

Natchaug SF – Jean Morrison (VHP) sent thorough descriptions of loops to Laurie, who will put updated maps on DEEP website. The supplies for toilets were paid by CHC from the grant fund and built by DEEP at Chatfield Hollow SP. DEEP will install the bottom of the toilets at the Lost Silver Mine Horse Camp site and have the toilets transported there. The Contract for the renewed grant cannot be located. Amy Carlin (DEEP Contract Administrator) is on maternity leave so DEEP is looking for it. It will go to Diane, who will have Fred sign it as the acting CHC President. The new contract will be to purchase and install picnic tables, build and install a hitching post and handicap mounting block at the camp, build two other small kiosks at the connecting entrances to the marked trail system at Goodwin and a hitching post at the parking area, replacing the broken kiosk plexi glass, motion detector camera, maybe print maps to be placed in kiosk. There may also be some need to purchase material to improve section of trails.

Goodwin SF – Jan is trying to get someone closer to Goodwin to be the VHP coordinator, trails person, etc.

Shenipsit SF – Amy Stegall did not follow up on the Sikes Road issue with the private landowner. We will consider it moot. Jan reports no new information on the Seniors Trail.

Salmon River SF & Comstock Bridge – Dave Boone's maps were forwarded by Laurie to Ginger but there were some differences than what Dave and Ginger had agreed. Laurie did the changes; she misinterpreted some of Dave's comments. Bunny, Ginger and Laurie discussed the maps. Bunny and/or

Ginger will contact Roxanne Winslow to have her send the GPS to Laurie, who will do the maps. Then Bunny and Ginger will mark the trails. Comstock Bridge is unchanged from our visit several months ago. Laurie will follow up on the issues discussed at the on site meeting. Ginger encountered a dirt biker illegally using the Airline Trail nearby in East Hampton. Laurie suggested calling the police and the DEEP Hotline if it happens again. Leslie suggests that she also contact the East Hampton Park & Rec Director.

Hammonasset – Jan has seen much paving over of a bird habitat recently by DEEP. Laurie was unaware of it.

Other Trail Reports:

Virginia State Parks – Bunny has visited one of six horse camps there. Reports that they have top flight facilities for horses and humans, maps, a satisfaction survey, online reservation system, a security guard to check for Coggins, rabies and health certificates. Facilities like that make it a tourist destination. Laurie will pass along the information to her supervisors but was not optimistic about getting any funding.

Legislation:

Much discussion about S.B. 190 (a/k/a P.A. 13-237). Decided that we should email Gov. Malloy urging him to veto the bill. Must be done by tomorrow.

Trail Surface Study:

Leslie and Ruth will refine the Summary/Conclusions. The Study will be put on the EAC website. Ruth to draft a cover letter to potential recipients re: what it is and why we did it. Laurie will look at webinars. Diane reports that New Hartford is considering building a Greenway and would like someone from EAC to present the findings of the study to their committee. Diane & Meg have offered to present the Power Point to them when it is completed.

Other Old Business:

Summer Outdoor Journey – some horseback riders are interested. The DEEP website has the schedule but it needs more details for riders on how to get to the park initially and how to get themselves back to it after riding.

New Business:

Jan reports that Single Tracks magazine (NEMBA publication) has an article reporting on and discouraging unauthorized trails.

Judy Beliveau has resigned from the EAC. She was from Oxford, which is in the Fourth (Federal) Congressional District. Her replacement will be appointed by State Rep. Cafero (House Minority Leader). We will think of who to ask him to appoint.

The Connecticut Farm Bureau wants to start an equine advisory committee of stable owners, business owners, etc. They want it to be well-rounded. Unknown when and where the meetings would be at this time. CHC is getting the word out.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Fred at 8:02 pm. Seconded by Leslie. Unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Beardsley

Secretary, EAC