

**Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 2, 2015**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Jessie Bradley, Jenny Cole, Mark Dillenbeck, Larry Hamilton, Dorothy Hill, Matt Krasnow, Sue Smith

**Others:** none

**Adjustments to Agenda:** none

**Approval of Minutes:** There were no corrections to the draft minutes from September 1 and October 5. They were approved with no objection.

**Varney Farm (property owned by Edgewater Center, LLC) application to Zoning Board**

The next Zoning Board hearing is scheduled for December 17. Jeannine McCrumb would like to meet with the Vermont Land Trust to discuss Town access options. It was suggested that Mike LaClair be included in the discussion.

Committee members discussed ideas and concerns. The group suggested two options:

1. Access through the event venue parking area to a small gated parking area on Park land on the northern edge of Unit K, with a mowed walking path to the existing trail (Varney Trail). Concerns were expressed that the parking area would be highly visible, and agricultural access is messy and may not be compatible with activities at the barn. An alternative would be shared spaces in the event venue parking area.
2. Utilizing the access on the north side of the barn.

The Committee considered ways to implement the easement, such as the Town retaining rights and acting on them some time in the future. A separate curb cut was discussed, as was requesting payment from Edgewater Center, LLC for creating an access in another location on Park land.

Jenny plans to attend the meeting with the VLT, and will notify the Committee of the meeting date.

**Approve location for Byington Bench**

The Committee approved the location by the Byington Trail, near the southeast corner of the meadow in Unit I. Jenny will contact Jeannette Byington.

**Report for Town Report due December 4<sup>th</sup>**

Committee members reviewed a draft and suggested edits to the document.

The report mentions a Green Works (Vermont Nursery and Landscape Association) invasive species management tour at the Park. This will be held Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 pm.

**Park volunteer appreciation**

The Committee discussed sending cards and gift certificates to volunteers who have helped out at several work sessions this year. Dorothy will ask Horsford's Nursery for a donation of half the cost of 5 gift certificates (with a value of \$20).

### **Erosion plan update - meeting with Jessica Louisos and Brian Cote**

Sue reported on the October 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jessica and Brian will come up with a plan to improve drainage areas at the northern edge of Unit I and at the end of the drainage ditch in Unit D, leading to the stream in Turkey Lane Woods. The plans may be implemented next year.

### **Update on fall work**

Much work has been done—brush-hogging, and volunteer work to clear invasives and replace bog bridges. Roofing shingles should be added to the bog bridges to deal with slippery conditions.

Committee members expressed concern about a recent suggestion by a Selectboard member that the Town request bids at one time for all brush-hogging. This would be very difficult at the Park, considering the timing of mowing for protection of wildlife and invasive plant control—and coordination with projects and activities in the Park. Matt suggested seeking more than one quote, to show that the Town is getting the best deal.

The Committee approved the engraving of 7 new trail signs by Green Mountain Laser Works and Engraving for \$140.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 pm.