

Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee
Meeting
Tuesday, November 27, 2018
5:30 p.m.
Charlotte Town Hall

Members present: Jessie Bradley, Jenny Cole, Greg Smith, Sue Smith

Committee members discussed Route 7 access and measures to improve safety. Ideas included widening the road shoulders (VTrans), advising people to turn in from the north at the Thorp Barn entrance and moving the Thorp Barn entrance to the south. New uses of the Nordic Farm may result in more vehicles turning in and out of the farm.

Jessie reported on the bog bridge project. James Bell had to do extra work to deal with wet conditions. Coarse stone was put down by Meg Berlin's driveway so equipment and supplies could be brought in. Meg was concerned about the appearance of the stone. Jessie suggested finishing the access in the spring by adding driveway stone. The bridges are finished and look good. James submitted an invoice for \$4,555. Jessie noted that James used tamarack instead of cedar for the base logs.

Hiring a contractor for winter projects was discussed. Two projects were identified: pulling large honeysuckle bushes in Unit N; and clearing hedgerows between Units C and D and north of the trail (continuing work started last year). Jenny will put together a scope of work and contact potential contractors. Brush hogging in Unit N was discussed. \$1000 was spent for James Bell to brush hog this fall. Other brush hogging this year only totaled a few hundred dollars. Committee members decided to keep the option open for additional late fall brush hogging.

Minutes from the October 23 meeting were approved. There was not a quorum at the meeting with Dean on November 14 (regarding Route 7 access). Committee members went over what was discussed at the meeting.

Duncan Murdoch would like to have Forest Bathing walks in the park again in 2019. Park Committee members spoke in support of this. Jenny will check on his Town application for use of facilities for 2019.

Thanking volunteers was discussed. Cards to send to volunteers will be left at the Town Hall for Committee members to sign.

Sue, Jessie and Jenny will meet in January to go over the remaining sections of the Management Plan and to work on final full version with exhibits.

The meeting ended at 7:00 p.m.