

CHARLOTTE PARK AND WILDLIFE REFUGE PROJECTS – 5/8/17

Ahead of the Storm Site 2 Project

The grant agreement has been received—approval of the agreement is on the Selectboard agenda for 5/8/17. The W-9 and Town certificate of insurance have been e-mailed by Dean to Chris Saunders, Department of Fish and Wildlife. Tasks:

- ✓ Check to see what we need to do to receive funding from Lewis Creek Association for construction oversight.
- ✓ Prepare scope of work and seek quotes for construction.
- ✓ Construction after July 1, 2017

Ahead of the Storm Site 1 Project

Prepare site (removal of buckthorn and honeysuckle) in fall 2017. Add construction costs to budget for summer of 2018.

Wild parsnip control

State permit for roadside mowing needs to be renewed. Approval of application is on the 5/8/17 Selectboard agenda. Junior Lewis will do the mowing around July 1. Last year he also mowed other patches of wild parsnip in the park. Shall we ask him to do this again this year? Tasks:

- ✓ Map patches of wild parsnip for mowing.
- ✓ Check for new areas and control small patches by pulling or cutting throughout the summer.
- ✓ Contact Claudia Mucklow to see if she will volunteer to mow areas she helped out with last year.
- ✓ Contact Junior in early June.

Gravel trails

When trails are dry, Junior will distribute gravel (purchased last year) on Byington Trail in Unit F and around overlook benches.

Agricultural access to Overlook

Junior estimates it will cost about \$750 for preparing ground and adding stone. There will be minimal digging and no culvert, so the flow of water will remain the same. Water will flow across the access and through the riparian buffer as it does now.

Removal of large tree by parking area fence, and repair of fence

The tree lost two large limbs over the winter and should be cut down and removed. To access the area, Middlebury Fence Co. can cut and roll back the chain link fence and then repair the fence after the tree is removed.

Vendors contacted for fence repair include Middlebury Fence Company and F.E. Hart Fence Co. F.E Hart no longer does repairs, but they provided two contacts, Mike White (482-2754) and Arnie Hill (893-1135). Attempts to contact these people produced no results. Richard Keach from Middlebury Fence Co. stopped by the park on 5/5. He will provide a proposal for repair, keeping good parts of the fence rather than replacing of the entire section, as proposed in the cost estimate last year.

Vendors contacted for tree removal include Teacher's Tree Service, Barrett's Tree Service and Junior Lewis. Two quotes are attached. Junior felt the job required special equipment which he does not have to do the job safely.



Purchase of organic herbicide for use on invasive plants

There are two herbicides approved for organic farming available from Crop Production Services in Addison. They are foliar sprays—see product information. Shall we try one of these herbicides on invasives, such as re-sprouted honeysuckle and buckthorn, bittersweet, dyer's greenweed? The cost will be around \$250.

Bog bridge replacement

Braxton Robbason has looked at the area and would like to discuss options. He will attend our meeting on 5/10. Trailside clearing has been done near the big oak tree in preparation for replacing this section. There is enough wood in the Thorp Barn and along Roberts Way to build one bog bridge.

Stabilization of bridge on Roberts Way

The bank under the first bridge on Roberts Way is eroding. Should a Park Committee member investigate stabilization and repair?

Field erosion in Unit I

This was brought up by Mike LaClair—another issue to look at over the next few months.

Elm tree grant

The trees are planted! Mark may have updates on the project.

Park Management Plan

Several sections are being drafted. Dean offered three dates to present the sections on agriculture to the Selectboard. They were May 22, June 12 and June 26.

Memo to Selectboard regarding waiver of lease payment for bobolink field

A memo should be sent to the Selectboard regarding adjustment of the lease payment for 2017.



Erosion under bridge on Roberts Way