



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee

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ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

LAUREN DESROCHER
CHAIRMAN

RACHEL DEARBORN
VICE CHAIRMAN

VALERIE AMSEL
PAM MCCORMICK
ERIN STAVENS
LOIS TIMMS-FERRARA
CYNTHIA VAN ZELM
LINDA ANDERSON
JUDI MANFRE
ANN MCLAUGHLIN

AD HOC ELLINGTON
TRAILS COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2020
Town Hall Meeting Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Valerie Amsel, Linda Anderson, Rachel Dearborn, Pam McCormick, Ann McLaughlin, Erin Stavens, Lois Timms-Ferrara

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lauren Desrocher, Judi Manfre, Cynthia van Zelm

OTHERS PRESENT: Bruce Dinnie

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Desrocher called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. CITIZENS FORUM:

Tom Palshaw reported that the Power Tool Training seminars will be going forward and will include training on the string trimmer, weed eater, and leaf blower. This certification is required in order to use these tools. He requested and was provided a list of interested candidates from the committee.

Additionally, Mr. Palshaw reported the sighting of a bald eagle on the north side of the swamp on the Hockanum Trail.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was noted that under Old Business, Item B, the motion was made by Erin Stavens, not Lauren Desrocher.

MOVED (MCCORMICK), SECONDED (ANDERSON) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 5, 2020 MEETING MINUTES WITH THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CORRECTION.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Plans for the Batz Property / Grant Opportunities

A site plan for the Batz Property is currently being prepared.

Linda Anderson described the opportunities for securing external funds to finance the ideas for the Batz Property and other endeavors of the Committee.

For a fundraising matching grant, a list of items and corresponding budget is required that would be need to be approved. This is due by the end of May for complete review. This matching program is intended for all donations and fundraising of the Committee and will include previous fundraising efforts from the 2019 Trail of Treats.

The motion stated that the Committee would invest the resources required to prepare this list and budget in order to meet the deadline of May 2020.

MOVED (STAVENS), SECONDED (TIMMS-FERRARA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO FORWARD WITH THE PRE-PREPARATION OF A LIST AND BUDGET FOR THE MATCHING GRANT.

The Trails Committee work is eligible for a segment of the Hartford Foundation of Giving grant that totals \$100,000 for the Town of Ellington. Ms. Anderson is keeping track of the committee of twenty-five and the parameters for these grant dollars. She will report to the Committee as more information becomes available.

The AARP grant proposal must be prepared for April 2021.

B. Calendar of Events

The Committee reviewed the calendar. A motion to accept was entertained and accepted.

MOVED (STAVENS), SECONDED (MCCORMICK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE 2020 EVENT CALENDAR, AS PRESENTED [ATTACHED].

C. Budget Review

Timms-Ferrara presented the budget for the next fiscal year, requesting \$8,000, the same amount as the current year. Discussion ensued. Given the projects on the docket, this is a reasonable request and will likely be expanded should additional funds be secured from grants and other opportunities outside of town government.

D. Renewal of Subcommittee Appointments

Vice Chairman Dearborn reviewed each subcommittee and those who had served on each in the past. In light of the missing committee members, all motions and voting on subcommittee appointments was postponed until the next meeting, but the following suggestions were made:

Treasurers – Lois Timms-Ferrara, Lauren Desrocher

Planning & Development - Rachel Dearborn and Lauren Desrocher

Maintenance - Valerie Amsel, Pam McCormick, Judi Manfre, and Lois Timms-Ferrara

Community Outreach - Erin Stavens, Linda Anderson, and Cynthia van Zelm

Trail of Treats - Linda Anderson, Valerie Amsel, Ann McLaughlin, and Judi Manfre

Education - Lauren Desrocher, Linda Anderson, and Ann McLaughlin

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Plan for Land Stewards

Ms. Amsel reviewed her proposal to create a one-page checklist for monitoring the trails to assist the Land Stewards. In addition, she proposes an annual report and a monthly walk of the trail. She will also request that Land Stewards maintain the number of volunteer hours that they are working in this role.

A discussion ensued about Committee members tracking their own time for committee and trails related work. All agreed to begin doing so.

VI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Community Outreach

Emails will continue to be sent. The calendar was disseminated and will be available at Hall Memorial Library. A newsletter or news brief may also be in the works.

B. Education

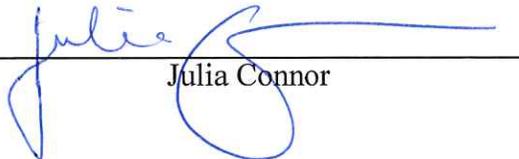
This subcommittee has not met yet, but will do so and will begin preparing a flyer promoting the educational activities that are planned.

In other business, Ms. McCormick noted UConn's Connecticut Trail Census website as a good resource for walking and cycling maps throughout the state: <https://cttrailcensus.uconn.edu/>.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (DEARBORN), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 7:15 PM.

Submitted by



Julia Connor