

Minutes Cow Pasture Committee

Tuesday – May 15, 2018

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Maura Quinn,, Chris Russo-Fraysier, Alex Pastor,

Non- Committee Members in Attendance: Steve Mackenzie, Mark Martin

1. Call to order: 5:32 pm
2. Adjustments to Agenda: Introductions
3. Approval of minutes (3-20-2018) – Lack of quorum. Will be approved at next Meeting. Post meeting note- The date of March 20, 2018 meeting was incorrectly noted as March 30, 2018.
4. Agenda Items:

Introductions:

Mark Martin, a new City resident with interest in the Cow Pasture Committee attended the meeting. The committee enthusiastically encouraged him to become a member. His background and skill set will enhance the Committees ability to move Management Plan goals and objectives forward.

Updates:

- Re-Zoning: Alex attended the March 22, 2018 informational meeting. The Meeting provided a broad overview and there was no discussion of the proposed conservation zone.
- Snowmobile access from Quinlan- Tim Bashaw was to research property ownership to determine if the trail passes on private property. No update has been provided. Steve Mackenzie believes the property belongs to the City. It was recommended that Mike Perrigo verify that Tim is a VAST member, which is required to ride on VAST trails. Recommendation was made for this item to be on the next meeting agenda.
- Committee Member Coordinator Reports:
Maura Quinn- Recreation-Trails and Infrastructure Co-Coordinator. Alex and Maura provided an update on the status of Trails and Infrastructure Projects (Table 4. Management Plan) that will be used to identify remaining projects to be considered in 2018. They identified 3 possible errors on Trail IDs in the Table. Maura reported that there was recent unauthorized work on a storm-damaged tree.
Ken Benton- Public Outreach and Education and Natural Resource Management Coordinator. The following up-date provided by Chris Russo-Fraysier. Ken coordinated Green-Up Day activities on May 5th that included continued work on the removal of invasive Asiatic Bittersweet and the removal of a *large* and very prickly Multiflora Rose. Recent ruts left by a dirt-bike were repaired and water bars were cleaned out. A minimal amount of trash was removed. Four committee members and two residents assisted.
POST Meeting Note: **Bird Walk Friday June 1st**. Meet at the Kiosk at 7:00 a.m- The walk is sponsored by North Branch Nature Center-.and will be led by Ken Benton. Free for NBNC members and \$10.00 non-member fee (assuming fee has not changed from last year).
- Dirt Bike Trail Damage- Thanks to immediate reporting by a trail walker and rapid response by Barre City Police Department the rider has not returned. Steve Mackenzie suggested moving the sign identifying property restrictions to a more visible location.
- Recent damage to the spring enclosure was discussed. A large stone was once again pushed into the spring. Options to monitoring the site were discussed.

VYCC 2018 Projects:

- Forest Stand 3- Semi-open. A quote for brush hogging will be included in the City's mowing budget. The Committee will have to clearly define mowing areas and co-ordinate the work. Ken Benton will assist with this and co-ordinate the pre-cutting of large tree by VYCC.
- Trail improvements and invasive removal as discussed in prior meetings and identified in the Management Plan. Ken has identified a need to refurbish and extend an existing water bar above the stream crossing on trail M1-1 that may not be noted in the Plan.

Cow Pasture Entrance Design:

Steve Mackenzie has offered to coordinate an early June meeting at the Cow Pasture entrance with City staff and Committee Members. Removal of guardrails and placement of boulders will be completed this year. Chris will send notice of on-site Meeting to members as soon as a date/time is set.

City Ordinances:

Alex provided copies of City Ordinances with highlighted areas to consider revising. The goal is to review current ordinances and identify revisions that are needed that apply to the newly created Conservation Zone. To be discussed at our next meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

- City Ordinances
- Quinlan Drive –VAST connector trail.
- Replacing Maps – Map Revision to reflect rerouted trail
- City Leash Law/Dog etiquette guidelines
- Coordinate with Amanda Garland (Barre Tech.) to identify potential projects that may include invasive species guide or tree ID (not discussed).
- Vacant positions: Fundraising Coordinator /Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator

5. Adjourn 6:35 p.m. Chris - Motion to adjourn.

Meeting Schedule:

July 17, 2018

Time: 5:30 –6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: City Hall- Back Meeting Room

Important Dates/Meetings:

June 1, 2018 – Bird Walk 7:00 a.m. Meet at the Kiosk

June- Date/Time to be determined. Meet at Cow Pasture entrance to discuss placement of boulders.