

## **FWT Board Meeting - Minutes**

### **July 12, 2021**

**Attendees:** Denise Bilsback, John Boettcher, Craig Hurlbut, Ron Happ, Hal Harris, Bill Polito, Dennis Kuhn, Norma Platt, Bud Gearhart, Eric Turberg, Steve Snyder, Anna Taylor. Guests: Crescent Trail Hiking Association, Jim Unckless, and Victor Hiking Trails, Dave Wright, the President of Victor Hiking Trails, Chauncy Young, Trail Boss

#### **A. Administrative Tasks**

1. Approve/Change Agenda – OK
2. Approve Minutes from May Meeting - OK
3. Membership Status- Denise Bilsback: status distributed to Board via email
  - Total memberships: 219
  - Volunteer work hours: 98.5
4. Review of Treasurer Report- Bill Polito: status distributed to Board via email
5. Social Media – 836 FB Followers
6. Website Inquiry Summary – Norma Platt
  - Arbor Creek Resident inquired about status of State Rd Trails and suggested grass carp for pond. Norma connected her with Hal, Chris Bilow, Glenn Morell and Tim Young
7. Communications Update- John Boettcher, no updates for this month
8. Habitat Committee Update- Norma Platt, no updates for this month

#### **B. Main Topics**

1. WRNP: Mowing- Presentation from Guests describing how they approach mowing for their trails
  - Victor Hiking Trails (VHT): 1,233 members, 70 active volunteer list to draw from for Mowing – mow approx. 35 miles of trails
    - o VHT purchased their mowers- they own (3)
    - o Insurance costs- \$800-900 per year, paid by Town
    - o Mowers stored by Trail Boss, he delivers them to locations of projects
    - o Maintenance of Mowers: annual, done by Trail Boss
    - o They will take (3) mowers out, 3x per week
    - o Volunteers rotate with availability
  - Crescent Trail Hiking Association (CTHA)- mow approx. 20 miles of trails
    - o Own (5) Billy Goats
    - o CTHA purchased mowers
    - o Insurance Costs- \$800-900 per year, paid for by CTHA
    - o Mowers stored in Town Shed (unheated, no power)
    - o Town provides a driver and a truck to deliver the mowers where needed
    - o Mow 1x per week, 10-12 volunteers, (4) mowers at time
    - o Town summer help assists

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- Maintenance by Parks Department Mechanic

#### - Next Steps for FWT: **ACTION ITEM**

- Craig, Ron and John to determine subcommittee of Trail Stewards
- Sub Committee to come up with recommendations for August Board Meeting
- Upon Board review of recommendations in August, discussion to continue and to include Glenn Morrell and Chris Bilow.
- Opportunity to seek volunteers specifically for mowing.
- Potential for fund raising for Mowers

## 2. Trails Planning & Maintenance:

### - Trail Projects 2021:

- Revocable Permit: WRNP property line and trail path still needs follow up from town – Town attorney is reviewing sample revocable permit used by Victor Hiking Trails, as provided by Anna and Hal, awaiting feedback
- Hickory Bark Deck Repair follow up - Dead tree removal
  - Determined that (4) trees are problematic.
  - Ash tree at the entry- Ron and potential Work party proposed to take down this tree
  - The remains of the tree that fell on the platform- propose Glenn Morell to remove
  - Additional two trees to be coordinated with Glenn Morrell
  - **ACTION ITEM:** John & Craig to coordinate with Glenn Morrell
- 6/19 workday at FMCP – address wet spots and build boardwalk
  - (8) participants- (3) new to Trail work with FWT
  - 84ft of new boardwalk installed! Great work, with a heavy lift project.
  - Discussed creating a separate email list of Trail volunteers to reach out to for these types of projects.
- July Work Party: Webster Thomas Cross Country Team, parents and athletes- Craig and Ron organizing, improving Blue, Orange and Black trails. Gravel and wheelbarrows provided by Town.

## 3. Kiosk Information- Review how content is selected, when it is updated - Group

- Kiosk contents to remain consistent: Maps, history, flora and fauna points of interest, and regulations
- Trail related Projects from groups to be shared on FWT Website, such as a kids' corner and FWT Facebook page

## 4. Tree Project: Response - Norma

- Kick-off Mtg, 6 people attended

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- Team building and establishing a methodology

5. Promote:

- Passport Update – Anna followed up with Parks and Rec, no response yet
- Summer Hikes – Anna proposed Hike: Start at Gosnell Parking lot, hike Big Field, exit trail to cross road to Vosburgh Trail, then onto Hojack, continue on Hojack to Klem- (out and back) approx. 4 Miles
  - o **ACTION ITEM:** Anna to determine a Date/Time and post invite to FB & website

6. Open Space – Anna Taylor

- Update on Town Workshop Presentation and next steps with Open Space Committee.

7. Open Discussion –

- Hojack Trail: Proposed Lake Road Termination
  - o Forest Lawn Neighborhood is requesting a design change to include a bridge
  - o FWT is satisfied with approved design as is.

Adjourn!