

## **DISCUSSION NOTES from the Land Stewardship Subcommittee Discussion on January 13, 2022**

The meeting was held in the Town Council Chambers with only three members in attendance in the Town Hall. Additional members were on Zoom. Therefore, only discussion was held with no voting as a quorum of members was not present in-person.

Attendance: Sally Tobias, Gale Carey, and Sally Needell (present) and Mike Everngam, Mike Drooker, John Carroll, and Vin Dellova on Zoom. Also in attendance were Tom Brightman (present) and Todd (Zoom). Absent: Ann Welsh, John Nachilly, Larry Brickner-Wood.

The meeting was called to Order at 8:33 AM by Sally Tobias. Because the subcommittee did not have a quorum present in the Town Hall Council Chambers, the meeting was held to share information, and no decisions were made.

Minutes: There were no corrections to the meeting minutes from December 9, 2021.

### **Stewarding our Lands Update**

The Doe Farm Survey is complete and will be shared with the public via Friday Updates starting January 14th, and surveys will also be administered at Doe Farm on Tuesday and Sundays, starting on Sunday, January 23.

Volunteers are needed at Doe Farm to help with the surveys. Sign Up are at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054DA5AB2FA2F58-doe farm> .

Feedback is needed for the property inventory spreadsheet shared with the subcommittee at the December 9, 2021 meeting.

### **Property Updates-Tom Brightman**

Thompson Forest needs tree cutting for 8.5-9 acres of fast-growing aspens on the site. Tom will seek bids for this work for late fall and winter 2022.

Dennis Meadows is donating his trail counters to the Land Stewardship Subcommittee. Tom will write a letter to Dennis acknowledging his donation of the counters.

There are 2 Eagle Scout projects in the works.

#1: The Conservation Commission gave \$750 for the work at Long Marsh. John Nachilly is doing design work with the scout.

#2: A bank-to-bank bridge is being designed for property behind the High School. Tom Brightman is checking on ownership of the property (ORCSD?).

Pike Property: The Conservation Commission has discussed the property and will be conducting a site walk. The property along with adjacent properties will help protect the water quality of the Lamprey River. The construction and signage for trails will not be allowed, but the public will be allowed to use the property. The Town will own the property and SELT will hold the easement to prevent development.

Other: Brian Keegan is organizing a Trail Tromp in Durham on February 5th. The Tromp is intended to expand use of the town's trails and lands.

Reports from committees:

Planning Board: Continued work on the Mill Plaza; public comments are still open. The Conservation Commission will be discussing additional comments regarding the wetlands for the board at the next ConCom meeting.

Town Council: Presentation by Jim Morse on the plans for the new Middle School to open on schedule at the end of February. The Council discussed plans for sharing the FAQ regarding the dam with residents.

Agriculture Commission: The Tallamy presentation on invasives will be part of the Conservation Commission meeting in late February. The public will be able to listen in via Zoom.

Trustees of the Trust: The trustees are meeting with the investment advisor. End-of-year reports are in process currently.

Wagon Hill Farm:

WHF is getting a sign refresh this month.

There will be a police detail at WHF on weekends to manage parking on route 4.

Permitting is being sought for tree limbing and removal; bridge design work continues.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 AM.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 10, 2022**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sally Needell