

Land Management Committee Meeting
12/4/07 8:00 a.m.
Conference Room 1

Ellen Cushman, Anne Paulsen (for TTOR), Andy Healy, Richard Pichette,
Martha Moore, Carla Moynihan

Also attending: Jean Mooney, Tom Grimbault, Gene Record, Kit Dreir

- Approval of September 20th Minutes.
- \$1,900 invoice from Polatin – herbicide application – work is not yet complete – approval – unanimous. Work to be done includes some planting and other removal.
- Two bills from Pressley
- \$7,298.12
 - 2 \$1,911.61
- Brings up to 10/25 – through Public Hearing and decision process and revisions made as a result thereof.
- Original Contract of \$26,050 will be fully reimbursed by JKR Fund.
- Motion – approval of both bills – unanimous
- 3 List of construction prices from Pressley – on a trail by trail basis.
- Tom – noted that many of expenses could be done by volunteer labor. In his estimation, \$139,000 remaining expenses that would need to be done by contractor – almost all of which is work needed on Trail 1 – Coal Road (approximately \$137,000 of total). Some work on Trail 10 also would need contractor (\$1,500).
- Other minor expenses – approximately \$7,000 that would be for supplies to be brought for building of signs and kiosks with remaining labor supplied by volunteers.
- As a result, from total estimate of \$289,000, actual expenses could be reduced to approximately \$145,000. Tom will provide the LMC with an Excel spreadsheet.
- Plan to have meeting in January for priorities and goals discussion.
 - Need to consider other sources of funding for work to be done, especially trails. One such source may be Belmont Citizens Forum \$300,000 funds from settlement with Northland.
 - Martha – Overall Wetland map done for McLean in 1990's has expired and would need updating prior to any work in wetland areas. Con Com will perhaps provide some general comment on trail plan but will only give specific advice after there is a formal application for work submitted as required by the Wetlands Protection Act. Recommends that LMC hires an expert to map wetlands for presentation to Con Com. Con Com now has an agent, Mary Trudeau, with whom we can work. Suggestion that Ellen perhaps come to a Con

Com meeting for a general discussion of project. She ask if we can have the wetland areas mapped only prior to beginning any specific work segment.

- Issue about whether LMC is receptive to public comment, specifically about conservation values. Question is how comfortable are we with environmental assessment work that has been done to date.

Richard – 50 months ago we did Goals and Objectives. This was roadmap for what we wanted to do and we have followed it. We have involved experts in this review. Process has been much more thorough than people realize.

Ellen – watershed for this work was the Jeff Collins' (Audubon) study that we made available and was incorporated in Pressley work.

Martha – ecological work by BSC was also done.

Anne – one question that we don't know answer to is how much use the property will absorb.

- We will need to consider how we manage the system and property on an ongoing basis as we understand the new "human" impact.

Tom – increased use – first impact will be seen on trails with more erosion. Study in 2001 done by NEMBA is incredibly similar to results from Pressley report.

Anne – would like to raise issue about Belmont Day School use. Thinks BDS should be helping in financial participation, particularly if they are using property for their programs.

Jean Mooney – BDS had signs for Cross Country team as well and some of the signs were on public property.

Anne – perhaps BDS would allow parking on Sundays.

Ellen – will contact BDS to discuss.

Summary - we believe we have strongly dealt with conservation issues to this point but realize ongoing attention will be necessary as we prioritize to move ahead with any trail work. Additional and continued focus on conservation impacts is certainly desirable, but as an evaluation of the work to date, not a start from scratch.

- 6 Question on whether gates on Concord Avenue should be fixed or replaced. Ellen will speak to Belmont DPW and get sign put up to indicate no unauthorized use by motorized vehicles.
- 6 Look for Public Meeting between January 10 and 18. Priorities and funding issues.
- 6 Ellen – TTOR did baseline monitoring report which they do on an annual basis.
- 6 Gene Record – perhaps could have project with high school or TTOR for census on use of property.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kidder

