

**Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill
Meeting Minutes: September 11, 2013**

Members Present: Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Harlan Carere, Michele Gougeon, Tom Grimbale, Andrew Healy, Steve Kidder, Jeff North, Wes Ward

Members Not Present: Historic District Commission Representative (unnamed)

Wes Ward Presentation TTOR – Conservation Restriction Annual Monitoring Report

- SwallowWort is a major problem – Very invasive
 - Sent to Bruce and Politan Environmental
- Trail work done without authorization of Committee
 - Newly cut trail
 - Connects 2 trails not usually maintained
 - T. Grimbale recommended to close it down
- More obvious signage should be posted indicating trails are under LMC jurisdiction
- Trail B is also a problem for recent unauthorized trail work – part of the new work to keep and part should be abandoned for the existing, approved trail. Tom G. will work with a team to perform an obvious trail intervention
- Eastern woods has had many of these issues over the years. There are bikes on other trails that are pedestrian-only as well. The Committee will consider more signage on No Bike trails
- Trail C is pedestrian only. Another new trail has been evolving but is going over a significant "hump". Tom G will review an alternative route and include interested citizens.

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Summary

- SwallowWort – I Bruce Scherer and Chris Polatin will evaluate and work with Jeff Collins of Audubon as appropriate
- Trails –
- Enforce Rules & Regulations - Police say need to draft a Bylaw – goal is the Annual Town Meeting in 2014
 - Animal Control Office could be involved – Health Department
 - Big splash – on PR
 - Who should enforce? Need more Information and details to write into the Bylaw. Ellen has consulted with Town Counsel on this.
- Talk to Wheelworks & Mountain Bikers – Magic is on NEMBA and will publicize
 - Put up on NEMBA website – Under Advocacy tab
 - T. Grimbale - no longer involved in NEMBA Board

Conservation Monitoring Report LMC Response – TTOR

- LMC response to monitoring report - discussion
- Jim Levin – Waverly Trail – Pleasant Street looking better
- E. Cushman will do a response directly to TTOR
- Invasive work near barn meadow area is likely requirement to reveal the property line

Trail Issues

- C – Did an unauthorized reroute – on rock – more sustainable
 - Alternate in a section of C
 - Closed original
 - Near the party site

MOTION – keep new segment of about 80 feet

VOTED – Unanimous approval

- B – signage – close newly cut line over "hump"
 - T. Grimbale – recommend – 80% trail is fine
 - Hump area is problem area – "half bench" issues
 - He will go take a look

Footbridge – Limited Scope Volunteer Work Day - October 27th to build the new bridge

- Conservation Commission approved it
- Glenn Clancy (Town Engineer) offered changes to design and then approved
- \$500 grant from NEMBA
- Scope – Take out old bridge – three 8 foot sections
- Funds – Total estimate - \$2,000 - \$1,500 from LMC, plus grant from NEMBA
- Limit LMC funding to \$1,500 near red maple swamp
- VOTE: Unanimous to go forward
- Funds from cell tower revenue

Finances - Harlan. Carere – Spreadsheet reviewed

- We appear to be on track with our financial plan for both funds for income and expenses (recurring and one-time). Approximately \$50K at this time, combined both funds.

Pine Allee

- Town Tree Warden Tom Walsh – Suggested Town Contractor Asplundh for trimming trees in Pine Allee
 - Use backyard scissor lift to take down tree branches
 - Requires maintenance – Not natural planting and must be cared for
- Widowmakers, tree branches first priority
- Possible Public Safety issue
- Price Alternative, chip and remove or cut and leave it
- MOTION: Ellen Cushman – Go ahead – Will talk to Tom Walsh and engage him and share recommendation
 - Up to \$9,000 to remove branches, trees and brush 3 prices chip and remove, chip and leave, cut and leave it
 - VOTE- unanimous to proceed up to the \$9,000 limit
- Northland Residential – discussed and not issue for LMC at this time. We will be notified by Glenn Clancy should Lone Tree Hill property be directly affected.
- Belmont Serves – We will not sponsor a project for Belmont Serves but ask our volunteers to work at Joey's Park on Columbus Day – Monday. If the Conservation Commission for Rock Meadow has extra volunteers or time, they may send a group to pick up trash/cut invasives at the LTH Parking lot on Mill Street

Meeting adjourned at 9:23PM

Next meeting to be held October 9, 2013

Recorded by Michele L. Gougeon