

Meeting Minutes - Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill

March 9, 2016 7 PM

Room 1, Town Hall

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Members Attending: Andy Healy, Steve Kidder, Jeff North, Michelle Gougeon, Tom Grimble, Ellen O'Brien Cushman
Residents Attending: Radha Iyenger

Mowing of the Meadows

The Committee unanimously voted approval for \$4830 for Heritage Fields to perform routine mowing of twice during 2016, all three meadows: Great Meadow, Heart-shaped Meadow and the Barn Meadow. First mowing to occur in May, second timing to occur in conjunction with work to be performed by Polatin. The rate of \$2415 per mowing is unchanged for the past several years.

Upper Coal Road Erosion Control Work – part 2

The Committee discussed at length the Coal Road work planned for this year, including the issue of water sheeting off the Codman parking lot.

McLean will provide an experienced crew and heavy equipment. Tom and Andy will work on a plan and update the Committee before setting the final date for the work.

Specifics could include the installation of a pipe under the road, punching through the wall to allow the water to reach and disperse across the lower slope above Pleasant Street, a desirable outcome per the Pressley Trails report, to encourage more understory growth on the slope. Ellen will ask member Lauren Meier about the process to review with Historic District Commission. Jeffrey will pursue the details of this project with the Conservation Commission April 12th, given the limited amount of work that is anticipated in the buffer zone of the stream. Jeff will try to coordinate a walk through with Mary Trudeau, the Conservation Agent to prepare for the meeting.

There was consideration and discussion of including volunteers as a work day in conjunction with the work on the Coal Road but with the heavy equipment, it was decided that a separate volunteer work day would be safer.

Volunteer Day – Belmont Citizens Forum

Radha Iyenger, Belmont Citizens Forum, discussed opportunities and plans for a volunteer work day in conjunction with Earth Day, on Lone Tree Hill again this year. Possible dates April 30th and May 13th were discussed – not yet finalized. Radha will be in touch with Ellen about details, committee endorsed project with appreciation.

Bulletin Boards/Kiosks donated by JKR Fund Several Years ago - Keys

Ellen will make a last attempt to get the keys to these kiosks from Kit Dreier of JKR Fund so that the updated General Bylaw for Lone Tree Hill can be placed inside. The keys must go to the DPW and the chair of the committee at minimum.

McLean Barn –Keys

Mary Trudeau has asked that Joe Finn have keys to the Barn. Mr. Finn operates the walk-behind mower for the Conservation Commission at Rock Meadow; the Land Management Committee has agreed to allow the mower to be stored in the Barn. The Committee did not agree to this request, instead indicating that the keys for the Barn are with the DPW.

Financial Review

Ellen reported that she had contacted the Accounting Dept too late to obtain the latest financial information but that it would be available for the next meeting, now that the mowing and Polatin Work POs will be issued.

Other follow up from past projects

The Committee had a brief discussion of the Bat Boxes installed by Christian Cahoon for his Eagle Scout project. We'd love an update – Ellen will attempt to reach out to Christian.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chairman