

Minutes of the Land Management Committee
April 1, 2008
8:00 a.m. Belmont Town Hall

Ellen Cushman, Wes Ward, Michele Gougeon, Steve Kidder, Andy Healy, Martha Moore. Also present: Liz Allison, Gene Record, Kit Dreier, Jeanne Mooney

1. Three invoices from Pressley were presented for approval. Recall that total amount billed by Pressley will be \$26,050.00 for trails work, to be reimbursed by the JKR Fund.

December 31 -	\$ 18.00
January 31 –	\$2,636.23
March 11 –	\$ 319.45

Motion to approve all three invoices was approved unanimously

2. Bill from Jeff Collins for Conservation Meeting

\$2,025 bill most of which was for preparation.

Motion approved unanimously.

3. Consideration of Minutes from prior meetings was postponed to next meeting. Ellen will resend to members.

4. Setting up Topical Working Groups:

Wes indicated some concern about too many small subcommittees. Wes suggests access, parking signs, communications, rules – all should work together as one committee.

User survey – separate task

Maintenance, rules and enforcement – separate task

Questions re user survey. May need some help in designing survey.

Liz – Is it practical to do a user survey when use may change and users will be different.

Gene – perhaps what we are looking for is a benchmark to establish what current use is.

Wes – generally would not do a baseline on this kind of property which is so lightly used.

- When properties are more heavily used TTOR could do a survey to establish why they use property, how often.

Information we would look for – number of users, types of users, how did they get there, frequency, how they entered property.

Might also poll the Woodlands

- other abutters
- need to do several days at different times
- how did they learn about property?

Michele – perhaps there is information about Habitat and Rock Meadow that would give us some information.

Baseline survey would be useful.

Discussion about other methods to do survey.

Want to survey actual users.

Wes – probably doesn't make much sense to try to go beyond actual users at this time because any changes are likely to be incremental.

Questions and discussion about how we can educate the town and public about the land and its potential use.

Survey issue – Wes thinks we need to hire someone to do this.

Ellen will put together a list of questions for survey as identified at this meeting.

Wes will give examples of other surveys.

Liz will get Boston Parks forms for survey.

Groups

Access, parking signs, communications	Wes and Carla; Michele
Maintenance, rules and enforcement	Andy, Martha, Steve
Survey	Ellen

Martha – Are we able to move forward on trails at the same time?

Wes – thinks we need to accomplish this work first before we do work on trails

It was generally agreed that members of the community may request to serve on the working groups.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Kidder

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