

Land Management Committee

Minutes

October 4, 2023

7:00 PM

Remote Access Meeting Only

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: November 2, 2023

TIME: 11:07 AM

Member Attendees: Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander, Steve Kidder

Other Attendees: Joe Hibbard, Leonard Katz

1. Minutes. The Minutes from the September 6, 2023 LMC Meeting were presented for approval. The Minutes, as amended, were approved unanimously by Roll Call 6-0 (Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander) Steve Kidder abstained because he did not attend the September 6 Meeting.
2. Invoices. One invoice from Parterre for \$2,700 for summer foliar application was presented for approval. Approved unanimously by Roll Call 7-0 (Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander, Steve Kidder)
3. Update on Relocation of Trail from Snake Hill Road. Radha provided an update and reported that the path will be relocated to keep it entirely within the Homeowner's Association's property.
4. Erosion on Coal Road. Joe Hibbard presented a report (copy attached to these Minutes). Joe noted that some of the water drainage is coming from the Oaks Parking Lot. Question was raised whether McLean could redirect some of the water run-off from Oaks Lot. Michael Macht-Greenberg said that he would review with his Facilities Department and report back at a future LMC Meeting.
5. Barn Door. Discussion was held concerning providing a fix to secure the Barn Door. Radha reported that she had arranged for a review by Calhess Restoration of Westwood which recommended a proposal to stabilize the left hand door. The cost of the proposal is \$2,949.38. Motion to approve the proposal was approved unanimously by Roll Call 7-0 (Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander, Steve Kidder)
6. Use of Barn For Temporary Storage. Town has requested approval from LMC to store athletic lockers from approximately December 3, 2023 through November 2023. LMC requested Steve Kidder to review the Conservation Restoration to determine if the Barn could be used for this purpose. Ellen noted that the Town has used License Agreements for

storage of articles in connection with the Town Library renovations and said she would get a copy for review to determine if the LMC could use a similar agreement.

7. Parking at Bottom of Coal Road. The Select Board has approved the marking of a designated Fire Lane to show that no parking is allowed at this site.
8. Bike Parking. Someone has been parking a bike at the gate. Recommendation is to leave a note on the bike stating that no parking at the gate is allowed.
9. Invasives Working Group Update. Joe Hibbard presented a report from the Invasives Working Group (Copy of the Report is attached to the Minutes). Joe noted that there are a series of recommendations for work to be done and indicated that he believed the Judy Record Fund would be willing to pay ½ of the costs of these projects.
 - a. One project is to remove ailanthus from the property during the late fall or early winter. Partere has submitted a proposal for \$3,750 to do this work. Subject to confirmation that the Judy Record Fund will pay ½ the cost, a motion to approve the proposal was approved unanimously by Roll Call 7-0 (Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander, Steve Kidder)
 - b. The second project is for herbicide treatment for buckthorn. Partere has submitted a proposal for \$3,650 to do this work. Subject to confirmation that the Judy Record Fund will pay ½ the cost, a motion to approve the proposal was approved unanimously by Roll Call 7-0 (Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander, Steve Kidder)
 - c. The third project is a 2024 project to control the reemergence of buckthorn and bittersweet. Partere has submitted a proposal for \$4,850 to do this work. Subject to confirmation that the Judy Record Fund will pay ½ the cost, a motion to approve was approved unanimously by Roll Call 7-0 (Radha Iyengar, Mark Smith, Adriana Bobinchock, Michael Macht-Greenberg, Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Carl Solander, Steve Kidder)
10. Pine Allee Work. The Pine Allee tree work will be done by Tree Specialists in October.
11. Meadow Mowing. Heritage Fields will be doing the meadow mowing at the end of October.
12. Update from NEMBA. No update was provided.
13. New Kiosk on Coal Road. No further update was provided.
14. Dates for Upcoming Meeting Set.
 - Wednesday, November 1
 - Wednesday, December 6
 - Wednesday, January 3

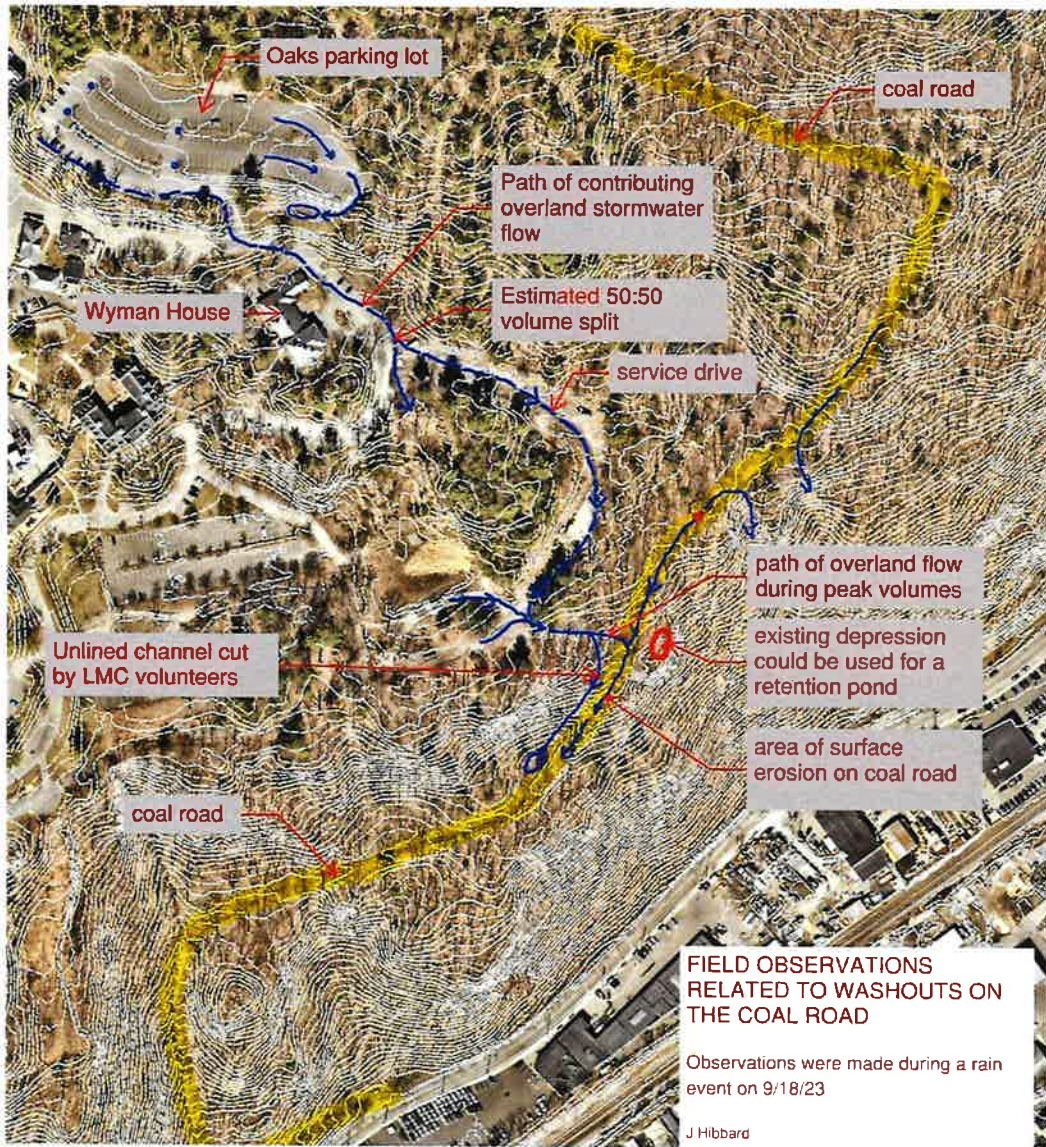
Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

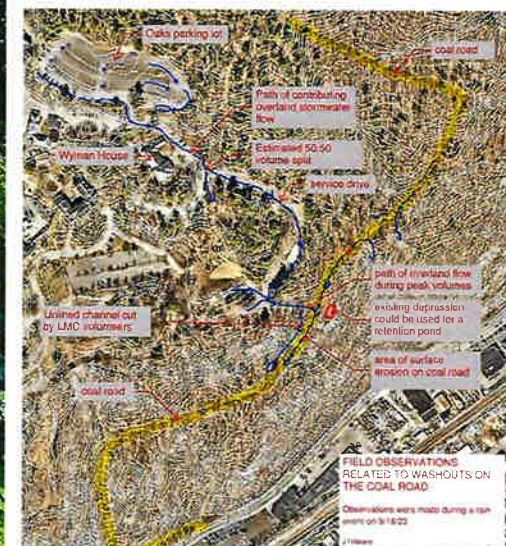
Report to the Land Management Committee

Coal Road Erosion

October 4, 2023

J. Hibbard

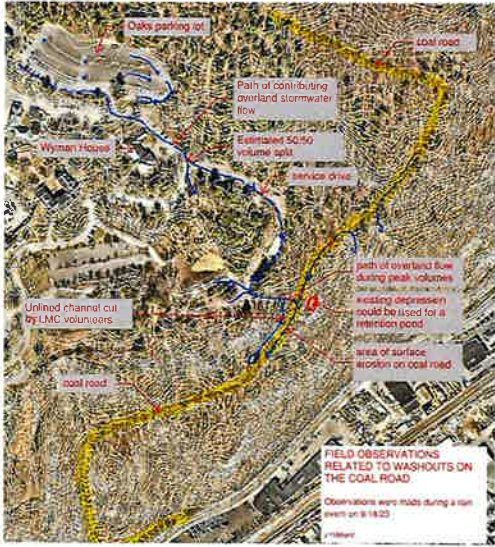


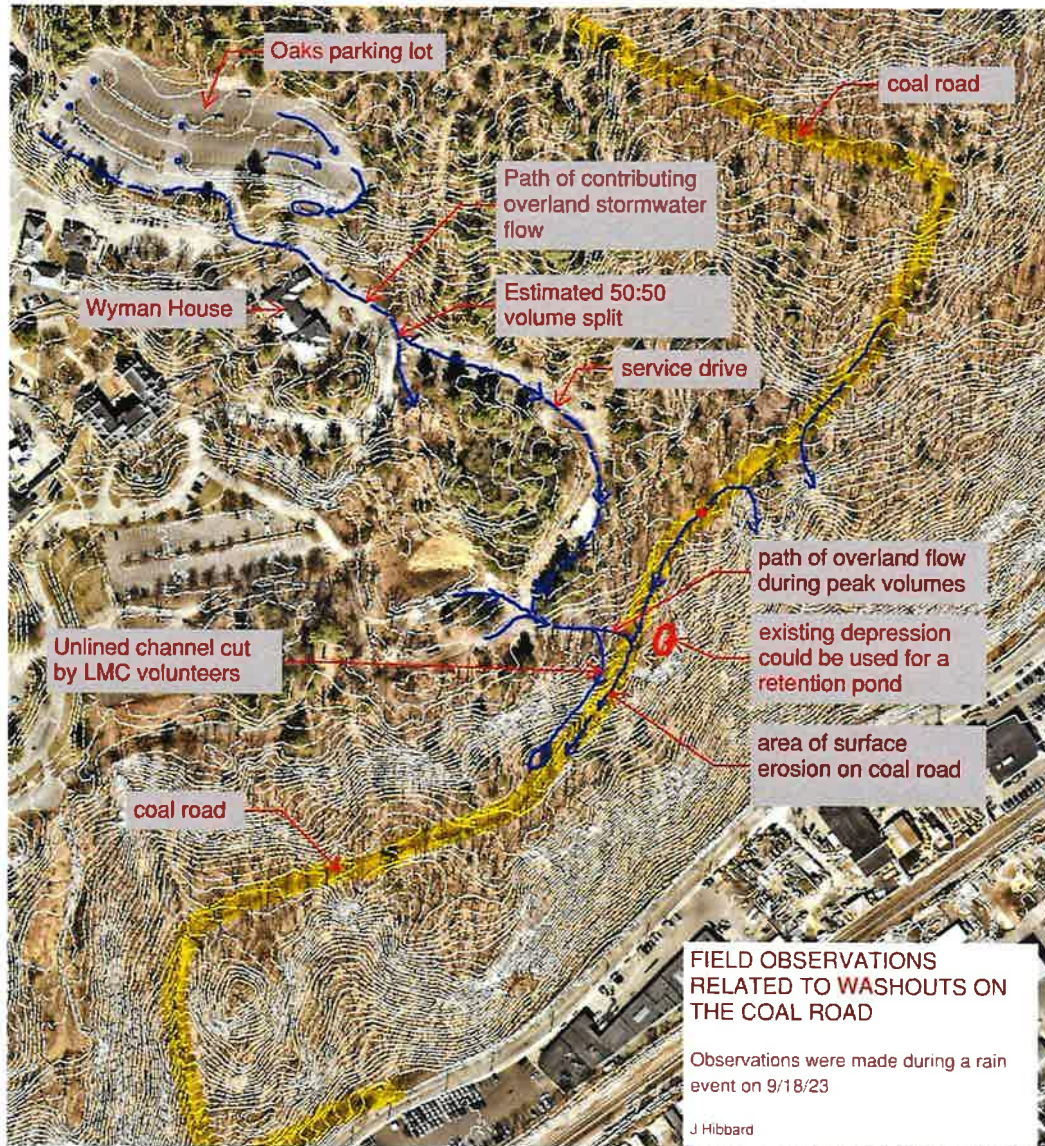












COAL ROAD EROSION

Recommendation –
Conduct an analysis of the contributing watershed and seek recommended actions to:

- Stop erosion on the coal road
- Stop erosion of the unlined open channel

Report to the Land Management Committee

from

The Invasives Working Group

October 4, 2023



AREA B6

Buckthorn and invasive vines were cut from Area B6 near Judy's Trail in 2022.

The IWG requested a fee quotation from Parterre to do the work.





AREA B6

Recommendation - The IWG recommends that this area receive follow-up herbicide treatment.

If the herbicide work is not done in 2023, the IWG will recut the re-emerging sprouts in 2023 for treatment in 2024.

Parterre Proposal #11490
\$3,650



Area A-1 thru A-9

Recommendation: accept Parterre Proposal # for one year (2024) spot herbicide to control reemergence of invasives in these areas.

Parterre Proposal #11491
\$4,850



AREA A1

This area was cleared with a forest mower in 2020.

Parterre has executed follow-up herbicide treatments in the 2021 – 2023 growing seasons.

Recommendation – It is recommended that this area be added to the annual Great Meadow mowing regime, and that Parterre be retained to do spot herbicide control of invasives in 2024.

Included in Parterre Proposal #11491



AREA A1

Mother colonies planted in April of 2023 are coming along well.

White wood aster is shown here.



AREA A1

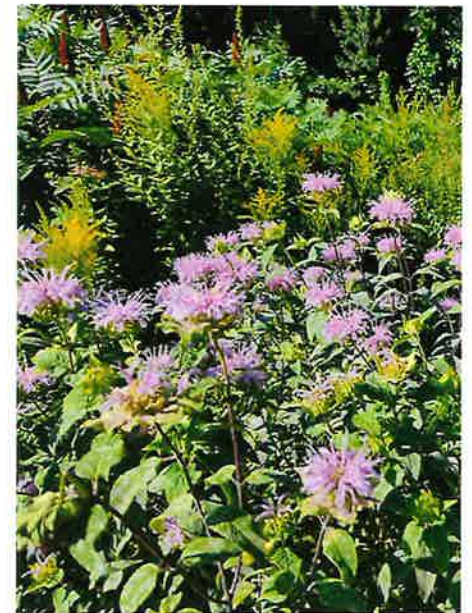
Mother colonies planted in April of 2023 are coming along well.

A colony of Short Toothed Mountain Mint, (*Pycnanthemum muticum*) blooming in its first year.



AREA A1

This colony of Wild Bergamont (*Monarda fistulosa*) was planted from 4" pots in 2022.





AREA A1

This colony of Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*) was planted from bare root seedlings in fall of 2022.



AREA A1

This colony of Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) was seeded by Parterre in 2021.



AREA A1 and Great
Meadow

This colony of New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*) was planted as plugs in the Spring of 2023.

New England Aster has been heavily browsed by deer.



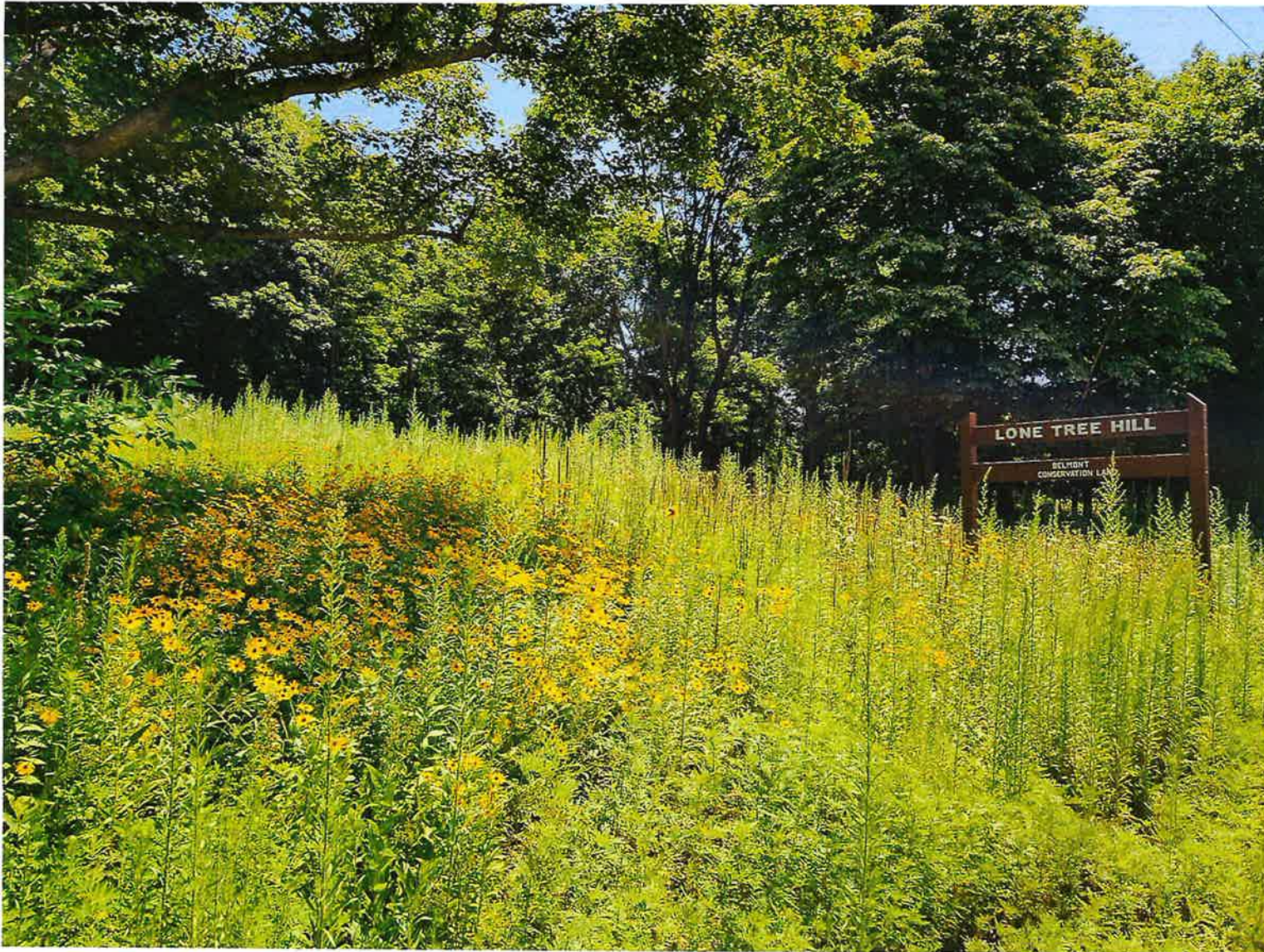
Narrow-leafed Mountain Mint
(*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*)

AREA A1

Some species planted as plugs in April 2023 are have not flowered this year, however, are doing very well and will likely flower in 2024.



Wild Bergamont
(*Monarda fistulosa*)



POLLINATOR MEADOW

The meadow was reseeded by Parterre in the fall of 2022. This spring, germination has been much better than prior years.

The most prominent flowers have been Daisy, Penstemon, and Black-Eyed Susan



POLLINATOR MEADOW

Early spring with Daisy



BARN MEADOW ON MILL STREET

Regular mowing and this summer's high rainfall has encouraged this beautiful stand of Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), a native warm season grass with high habitat value.