

Minutes of Land Management Committee Meeting

April 22, 2008

Present: Ellen O'Brien, Carla Moynihan, Martha Moore,
Andy Healy, Michele Gougeon and Stephen Kidder
Did not attend: Richard Pichette, Wes Ward, Frank Keefe

- Issue related to field mowing expense.
Ellen reported that she has requested information on the level of expense that will be needed for mowing the fields and is still waiting to hear back. The Committee also discussed whether it would be advisable to get a price quote solely for mowing trails.
- Minutes for December 4, March 18 and April 1.
Dix Campbell requested that the March 18 minutes be amended to reflect the discussion of an alternate route to Trail 12A.
With amendment, all three sets of minutes were moved and approved.

2 Reports from Working Groups.

3 Access and Communication Subcommittee Meeting. Carla reported on meeting. Schedule has been set with meetings on May 14 and May~28, and June 4 and June 25 at 7:30 a.m. Subcommittee has decided to discuss trail mapping at the first meeting, signage at the second meeting, and access, policy and communications at the third meeting.

3 Rules.

Steve reported that meeting was held that morning and subcommittee decided to try to learn via other sites and organizations. The Subcommittee will speak with Wes Ward and Roger Wrubel to find out how they have set rules and enforced them.

- Survey Group.

The Survey Group has identified six observations (cyclist/pedestrian, alone/group, children in group, dog ,day and time) and six questions for the survey:

- How did you get here?
- If cyclist, will you ride through or loop within?
- Where did you enter?
- How often do you visit?
- What town are you from?
- Any other comments?

Ellen will also talk to Belmont Day School and find out exactly how they intend to use the property. She'll remind them that the Conservation Restriction does not permit posting of notices by stapling

into trees or construction of structures. Group intends to request help from Belmont High School Environmental Club.

- Ellen presented an invoice from Pressley Associates for preparation and attendance at March 18 LMC Conservation-focus meeting - \$1,443.22. and \$180.00 for reproduction of additional copies of the trails report. On motion, the invoice was unanimously approved.

- Discussion re Baseline Trails Map.

Ellen identified particular issue with Trail 12A. Principal question was do we need an additional trail at bottom part of meadow. Anne Paulsen joined the meeting at this point representing TTOR. Ellen reported that all four consultants had advised against Trail 12A as shown. The question was posed whether a pedestrian only trail through Lone Tree Hill is our objective.

Dix presented a map that showed an alternative to 12A that would use an existing trail (Trail 14) for the western section of proposed 12A.

Martha made motion to consider alternative to Trail 12A.

After discussion, the motion was amended to ask whether Committee thinks Trail 12A should exist as set forth on October 1 map.

On motion, the Committee unanimously voted that we should not have Trail 12A as set forth on the October 1 map.

Further discussion was held concerning whether the Committee thinks there should be a pedestrian only route across meadow. At this point, Ellen suggested we address the issues in the following manner:

- (1) Do we value pedestrian only route through Lone Tree Hill?

Everyone on Committee agreed that it would be best to keep Lone Tree Hill pedestrian only and Trail 11 pedestrian only – subject to one small section being used for bikes.

- 3 Do we want to provide a way for bikes to get across from Pleasant Street to Mill Street?

Everyone on Committee agreed that we do want to provide such a route.

Discussion was held concerning whether Committee should wait to try to construct an alternate route until information is received back from the survey.

Discussion was also held concerning whether it is more important for bikes to have an East/West crossing or a loop. Ellen will connect with Tom Grimbale of NEMBA for opinion.

Committee discussion indicated a desire to hear more from experts on alternate route and from bikers as to relative importance of East/West route versus loop.

Discussion was then held concerning Trails A, B and C and whether these trails should be kept as trails. Consensus was that these trails should be maintained. Further concern expressed that multi-use on A, B and C is dangerous.

Next meeting set for June 11 in the evening – meeting starts at 5:30 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,

Steven Kidder