

Minutes of the Forests and Trails Committee  
Town of Conway, Massachusetts  
November 17, 2021  
7 pm via Zoom

Present:

Members: Marilyn Webster, Deb Donaldson, Priscilla Lynch, Suzanne Artemieff, Paul Charest

Associate Members: Cynthia Lawton-Singer, Courtney Gilligan

Called to order, ~ 7:01 pm by Deb Donaldson

Minutes of meeting on October 27, 2021, approved with correction.

Decision made to start meetings going forward at 6:30 pm and meetings will be held via Zoom at least until April.

Deb and Marilyn reported that Highway Dept will not start work on Fournier trail access improvement before spring.

Cynthia and Marilyn reported back on meeting with 6th grade teacher Jaime Jackman, who is very enthusiastic about involvement in Fournier guided trail project.

- First step is to have Mary Wigmore lead Jaime and other interested teachers on a walk to point out property boundaries, fragile areas and other points of interest.
- Second step is to conduct walk with 6th grade class and any other interested individuals to determine the interests of the students.
- Jaime views the students' participation as both a learning opportunity and community service
- One specific area of interest cited was the clearing of invasive honeysuckle near the entrance to the trail; the point was raised that native shrubs should be planted in their place to deter establishment of new invasives
- Jaime was also receptive to incorporating learning about the First Americans

Discussion around next projects (e.g., kiosk/signs for rules/etiquette and additional walks) and possible funding sources led to the following action items:

- Suzanne will look into specifics of the Grants for Good
- Marilyn will speak with Véronique about possible sources of funding that would be reimbursed upon project completion
- Marilyn will look into possible resources for web hosting
- Suzanne will speak with Peter Engelman regarding the Historical Society's web site
- Deb will speak with arborists regarding best practices for signage
- Cynthia will contact Michelle Turré about location of old growth stand
- Deb will contact Historical Society regarding someone to lead a walk to the old cemetery on Town Forest land

Next Meeting Dates

December 22

January 26

Meeting adjourned, ~8:15 pm

Submitted December 23, 2021, by Suzanne Artemieff, Secretary