

The Delaney Planning Committee
Official Minutes
June 13, 2016

Members in attendance:

Felix Reed, Tim Makepeace, Tracee Rupe, Cathy Walker, Rich Holcomb, Ellen Malone, Joe Phillips

Audience: Tammy Holcomb, Joel Pliner

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Rich Holcomb vice Chairman.

Ellen Malona made a motion to accept the May 2017 minutes, Cathy seconded it, and they were unanimously accepted.

Tracee noted that there was no change since last month in the Treasurers report.

Joel Pliner of the Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund brought o the Committee the final plans for their weed-harvesting program, which is in the permitting process at the moment. Some of the permits are in place, and some will take a number of months to secure.

The fund has purchased a used harvester to “mow” the milfoil in the Little Lake. They have received permits to clear boating lanes so that the residents on Little Lake will have access to the main part of Lake St. Catherine. After much scouting they have found the only place on Little Lake with acceptable access for the harvester as well as trucks. It lays on the Lakeside Park’s southern border with John Gentle. There used to be an old farm road there, that accesses North St. next to the old milk house. They would bring in trucks to off load the weeds, and haul them away there, as well as launch the harvester. There was discussion and some questions. Joel says the Conservation Fund are proposing putting some gravel next to the milk house and test driving a truck down there with out building a road. To address a wet area near the shore they would use crane mats to cover and cross over it. They will have to dredge a small part near the shore.

The harvester would unload onto a conveyor belt that drains the water as it loads the truck, then haul away the weeds immediately, so no smell or piles to contend with. They may have to harvest daily during the summer months. And they will make every effort to contain the fragments for the mowing to prevent spreading the milfoil.

Felix offered some observations about the contour and shape of that part of the park, along with Tim and others. There was discussion about the permits they will need, along with concern about this being allowable under the Vermont Land Trust conservation restrictions. Tim stated he had already spoken with Pam Burlingame about this and received permission. But that permission is not in writing. Cathy will contact Pam Burlingame to double check on that issue.

Felix and Rich felt that the proposal needs to be presented to the Select Board. Tammy and Joel confirmed that it already has been, and the Selectmen have given their OK. After some discussion Rich made the motion to recommend this project to the Select Board. Ellen seconded it, and it passed. Joel was appreciative, and informed us that they want to test things this year, but not begin the harvest/mowing until next summer.

Tim Makepeace presented a letter he had received from Bill Alexander of the Slate Valley Trails.

Bill reports that they have started construction on the Blue trail on Sunday, and it will take approximately 2 weeks to complete. He also tells us that there are still issues with the parking area. Muddy and wet. The consensus is that our rainy spring has contributed to that, and we'll have to take a closer look when the parking lot has had a chance to really dry out. There was discussion about how to possibly remedy the problems. Bill discovered horse hoof prints and several piles of horse manure on the SVT Rt. 1 trail. He is somewhat concerned that the hoof prints will lead to trail erosion in the future.

Lakeside road was graded, but still need some help. Perhaps some more gravel? The wet weather has had an impact on it as well. We'll wait to see what dryer weather brings, so we can repair the issue later.

Picnic discussion about who was to do what when. Rich requested a reminder e-mail from Cathy the day before.

Rich brought up the need for pavilion plans. It's time to start the process of getting things moving forward. We all agreed to a 30' X 40" size. There was talk about the increasing acts of destruction and vandalism at the Park. The majority feels we need to build something very simple and sturdy, dropping anything more than that. Rich made a motion to bring plans for a building to the select board for approval, and then begin the bidding or pricing process. Felix seconded it and it passed. Tracee reminded us that we need to provide the legwork for executing the building after we receive the approval of the select board.

The problem of the goose dropping has not really been addressed. Tammy said that the mowing service really couldn't be asked to do anything as it is not in their contract.

Tracee said she had not received any notification about the used dock being sold. She would pursue that.

Tim said he had found the person who broke the glass bottles all over the park several weeks ago. Most of us feel that if we patrolled the park after dark, and issued a few citations, it would cut down on all the vandalism we have been experiencing. In the discussion it was suggested that we post a "No Glass" sign. Or add it to the current sign. Perhaps moving the sign to a more visible spot would help. Or adding a second sign at the entrance would help. Tim will look into adding to our existing sign. Also enforcing the dawn to dusk use rule would be important to eliminating the vandalism in the Lakeside Park.

Tim says he needs items for the agenda by the Monday before our meeting in order to include them in the next meetings agenda.

Tim made the motion to adjourn, Joe seconded it, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm.

Public comments were take through out the meeting.

Submitted this day June 14, 2017 by Cathy Walker, Secretary