

Town of Westminster

MASSACHUSETTS 01473
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
Open Space Committee
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Minutes of Meeting – May 17 2022 – Selectmen’s Meeting Room

Attended: Isiah Grigos, Marie Auger, Jodi Snyder, Heather Billings, Amy Tisdale Tetrault and Town Planner-Stephen Wallace. Guests:

The meeting started with approval of the minutes for April 5, 2022.

The first order of business was planning for our volunteer trails maintenance day, to be held on Saturday June 4th, coinciding with National Trails Day. We have reached our limit of 20 volunteers. In addition to the volunteers, there will be four Committee members and six crewmembers. The Monday before the event, the Planner will send out a notice to volunteers reminding when to show up, what to bring (bug spray, gloves, rakes, and clippers).

People will gather at the Crocker Pond Recreation Area at 7:30 AM. Heather will open the gate so people can access the parking area. Heather or Crocker Pond staff will rope off a portion of the picnic area for the volunteers. The Town Administrator has placed an order with Dunkin Donuts for coffee and muffins for that morning. Amy and Jodi will bring bottles of water. Planner will meet Wachusett catering staff at 11:30 AM and direct them where to set up the box lunches.

Volunteers will need to sign a liability waiver. Town Planner will welcome everyone as the volunteers help themselves to coffee and muffins while filling out the liability waiver. Sue will serve as safety officer for Crocker Pond and Amy will serve as safety officers for Hager Park. The safety officers will hold onto the waivers for their respective group of volunteers and will be given a first aid kit. Planner has alerted Police & Fire about the day in advance.

After the morning welcome, the Hager Park volunteers will depart to Hager Park and the Crocker Pond volunteers will stay on. Dan Seifert and Dennis Powers will act as crew leaders for Crocker Pond and Chris Mossman and the Hager Park Committee will act as crew leaders for Hager Park. The crew leaders will explain the morning’s work program for their respective locations. Only the crew leaders will handle power tools. Volunteers will reconvene at Crocker Pond at noon for a box lunch provided by the folks at Wachusett Mountain.

Planner has walked the trails at both locations. The Hager Park Committee has determined their work program and have all the tools they need. The Crocker Pond Committee still needs rakes, clippers, posts and boards. Planner will contact DPW and Cemetery Department to see if we can borrow some rakes and clippers. Crocker Pond Committee will buy the necessary posts and boards and cover \$200 of their cost while the Planner will cover the remaining amount from other funding sources.

The last item discussed was updating the Town’s Trails Map (last prepared in 2010) and making it easier to use online. Planner said this would make an excellent District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant from our regional planning commission. The next DLTA grant round opens in December. In the meantime, Planner will obtain a large-size color version of the old trail map that we can mark up.

The Committee will meet next on Tuesday night June 7 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.