

Here are the minutes for August 18th:

- Call to Order at 5:10pm
 - In attendance: Mark Foschesato, Blaine Moore, Priscilla Davis, Jym St. Pierre, Dennis Wilson
- Current Projects
 - Interpretive Signs – Dennis reported that we have everything to install them but are currently lacking employee time to do the installation. We need to go out and mark where to put the signs for him and he will have them installed this Fall.
 - The Human History sign will go at the Bowdoin entrance.
 - The Natural History sign will go at the Greater Commons entrance.
 - Picnic Table – The table is on order and will ship on September 22nd, after which it will take at least a week to arrive. It will also be installed this Fall.
- Membership Updates
 - Jym suggested two names we should reach out to.
 - Dennis can update the committee description on the website, and add that the committee has openings available in the town page.
- Budget
 - Budget is normally discussed in the January/February time frame.
 - We should begin thinking about projects to include in the budget this Fall and discuss at a meeting after we've had some time to let ideas percolate to get it included in next year's budget.
- "No Spit" Zone
 - Part of the Greater Commons and Land for Maine Futures land, the developer has a deed restriction on what can and can not be done on the land. The list of restrictions must be followed or the land reverts back to the developer.
 - These sections are *not* a part of the Town Commons Committee's responsibility and is actually adjacent.
 - Dennis will find the deed and share his map with the area in question.
 - The town recently had to remove a dozen faerie houses from this section.
- General Maintenance Priorities
 - The kiosk info will be updated around the same time that the signs are installed this Fall.
 - Fix/Replace Signs – some signs are broken or misplaced. Dennis will need permission from the committee for repairs or replacement as they will come out of committee funds. We should ascertain which signs need work done or need moving.
 - Trail Name Conventions – Priscilla will email historical trail names so we can have a discussion on future conventions by comparing historical trail names (whether currently in common use or not.)
 - Wet Spots on Trails – Some trails can not be hardened, others can be as long as tree roots have not barked over. We can not use stone dust, just dirt or mulch.
 - Bog Bridges require permitting, but some locations should be identified as good candidates for one.

- We should schedule a walkabout some time in September to identify wet areas that need attention.
 - Dump Debris – Will not be cleaned out by the town but still needs to be covered again. Tree growth has made access difficult.
 - Remove Poison Ivy – Dennis needs help locating so he can request waiver permits to spray it when it comes out in the Spring. Good candidate to include in a walkabout in September for the wet spot identification.
 - Chestnuts – we should schedule a winter outing to remove other saplings.
 - The state’s forest ecologist checked the trees and reported that they are in excellent shape.
 - We are fortunate to have chestnut trees that produce nuts that germinate.
 - Kiosk Brochures – we need to recreate the files. StanTech was the original printer, new brochures will need fact checking and updating. Currently there are 3 brochures, Town Commons, Plants, and Birds.
 - Dead Tricentennial Tree Replacement – Dennis will have it replaced this Fall.
 - Pedestrian Crossing – no new developments
 - Removing White Pines from Pitch Pines – should be scheduled as a Winter Day project. The state’s ecologist studied the encroaching red maple bog in the Greater Commons.
 - Remove Invasive Plants – Would be nice to have an inventory, which could be a good project to partner with the ecology class at Bowdoin College.
 - Fall Clean Up Day
 - Potential date: Saturday, October 9
 - Still need to coordinate with the Baxer and Hovey Lane neighborhood trail cleanup day.
 - What do we want to do with the cleanup day? Some possibilities:
 - Marking Trails and/or painting signs?
 - Litter cleanup
 - Pulling bittersweet
 - Could combine the cleanup day with the unveiling of the new signs and create a family day (including burgers/dogs/etc.)
 - Mark’s Trail Map & Categorization
 - Mark started at the parking area and numbers along the major trails and then continued on to smaller trails.
 - The unauthorized trails (junctions 26 through 29) are well used trails and the end point would provide a natural crossing of Harpswell Road at the Quarry; should we officially adopt these trails?
 - Adjourn at 6:03pm.