

Village Pathway Committee
Meeting Minutes
1/31/08 - draft

Members Present:

Ginny Lovett
Pam Coburn
Mark Donohoe
Gerry Brooks
Ann Brienza

Staff Present:

Angela LaBrecque

Guest Speaker:

Bob Reals, Housing Development Director
Laconia Area Community Land Trust

Ginny Lovett opened the meeting and Mark Donohoe read the minutes from the 1/10/08 meeting. The following amendments were made: Access to the Town Forest via Philbrook Avenue was discussed along with access to Swazy Park, other town facilities and Page Pond. It was recommended that roads with sidewalks be noted on maps. Mike Faller agreed to meet with Angela and the town mapmaker. A letter to remind member Bob Otis to join us will be sent. Ginny, Gerry, Pam, and Carol (Gerken) will walk from the Waukewan boat launch to Swazy Park on Thursday the 17th, 1pm.

Angela LaBrecque suggested an inventory of crosswalks and report on the conditions of sidewalks.

Bob Reals presented the Meredith Affordable Housing Development Project with respect to fencing requests made by landowners who abut the Boynton Road project. He provided several maps and information relating to the project. Of particular concern to this committee is the fencing issue which would impede walkways to the schools.

Discussion was held on whether the land in question was in "current use", and if years of usage as a footpath would be considered under "adverse possession" rulings.

Bob Reals stated that the Meredith Planning Board now has the Laconia Area Community Land Trust "on record" to provide 5 fences for the project.

He mentioned that they are adding a 5 ft. walkway along the North side of Boynton Road. A suggestion was made to have a walkway around the Meredith Cemetery.

Gerry Brooks reported on the inaccuracy of the signage in Swazy Park. Gerry provided detailed maps of Swazy Park and the surrounding area.

The sign "Colby Street" should read "Canal Street". There is also another sign in the park, "Beehive", which has no meaning.

Gerry suggested a small gravel parking lot at the Waukewan Ave. entrance of the park, and to include picnic benches near that side.

Angela suggested an inventory of amenities (bikes, restrooms) for the town. Gerry noted that the property owner of tax lot 17B has placed a propane tank outside his property line which reduces the entrance to the park from the Canal St. side. Clarification of the actual entrance from Canal Street needs to be addressed to have more visible access from that side.

Ginny Lovett suggested committee members gather on February 9th at 11 am to "walk" the property in question in the Boynton Rd. project.

Angela LaBrecque will inquire about the "Adverse Possession" question as it pertains to the Boynton Road project and the fencing issue.

She suggested Kevin Morrow from the Meredith Police Dept. attend the next meeting to speak about sidewalk and crosswalk safety. Ginny agreed, but that he should come to a meeting in the future. Ginny will ask the Conservation Committee for a speaker to come discuss the new Town Forest.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 18, 4pm

Adjourned 5:15pm

Minutes prepared by Ann Brienza 1/31/08