

Subject to Approval

Minutes of September 19, 2018 meeting of the Rockland Preserve Management Committee

Members Present: Joe Oslander, Dave Okomoto, Jason Engelhardt, Tim Burton

Meeting was called to order at 7:41 PM.

Minutes: Minutes of the 7/18/18 meeting were approved. meetings@madisonct.org

October field trips: Week of Oct 8 third graders visit Rockland. Heather Crawford, Joe Oslander, Julie Ainsworth to share teaching responsibilities.

October 13 Bauer Festival needs coverage from 11-3. Jason 1-3, Tim 11-1. Joe will request help from others.

October 21st Bimblers Bluff 50k race. Need to review course to know maintenance needs. Dave will check and update group.

September 30 planned work party: Jason Engelhardt will coordinate 9-11 AM. To clean up north side of the pond and the outdoor classroom.

Job list update:

- Rebuild charcoal site *Eagle Scout Project* potential: not for worksite
- Cut high grass at Pine Trees and North side of Coan Pond, brush
- At Youth campsite dead trees to be cut for campsite: *Completed by Jon and Tim*
- Clear cut at outdoor classroom facing Coan Pond
- Outhouses need general maintenance and inside cleaning: *Joe will handle*
- Check cross over trail cut from OCHD to CH Rd. to Charcoal site for downed trees and Boundary trail *Tim and Jon completed*
- Replace sign post at Old Crooked Hill Road/ Service Rd. *ask Scot*
- Crossover trail at the bridge, there is a post that needs the sign re-bolted *ask Scot*

Coan Pond trail is in good shape, thanks to Nick Lodge and Rich Nace for submitting reports. Coan Pond trail is now responsibility of Rockland Preserve to maintain. Agreement for management and care of the trail between Madison and RWA was never signed and is now being reviewed.

Biking update: Pump track has been installed. NEMBA and local fundraisers contributed \$20,000 for the installation. Drainage has been challenging, but adjustments have been ongoing. Discussion with Scot to check with insurance on needs for a fence. Installation crew prefers no fence, just tarps for closures. Scot is also going to check on acceptability of temporary sign. If it is appropriate, we will make permanent installations.

Other:

Jason met with Scot and discussed safety and signage around the pump track area.

Jason and Scot also discussed a composting toilet that he is trying to put on the CIP list and the natural playground which is already on the CIP list.

Guidelines for trail proposals: Discussion about formalizing a process for new trails due to the changing dynamic of cycling at the preserve, the conclusion of new projects and the need to focus on maintenance and safety. The Rockland Advisory Board agreed that any trail that veers out of sight from the existing mapped trail would require amendments to the map and any trail modifications or additions that are significant enough to require changes to the map should follow the process described in the trail proposal procedure. The trail proposal procedure is outlined below:

Trail Proposal Procedure

As outlined by the joint meeting of Inland/Wetlands and Conservation:

1. Trail modifications or additions should be proposed to the Rockland Advisory Committee at a planned meeting.
2. After meeting with the RAC, the idea is presented in the minutes to the beach and Recreation Director, wetlands enforcer, and a conservation representative. A walk is planned and all parties are given a reasonable timeframe to assess the trail plans
3. The RAC has an opportunity to discuss the alterations and make recommendations to the plan.

In consideration of efforts to support first responders:

4. All trails should be reflected on the map and shared with responders

Determined by the Rockland Advisory Committee:

5. Trail proposals should include a rationale. Given the current length the current trail length. We will consider additions that are for safety or environmental concerns.
6. Trail features such as log rides, jumps, rock gardens, and others need to have go arounds and clear sightlines. Nothing should be mandatory for all riders and all elements should be continually removed and adjusted for safety.

Meeting Adjourned 9:13 PM

Next meeting November 20, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Engelhardt