

Draft minutes not yet approved.

Mobbs Farm Committee Draft Minutes

August 22, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Jericho Town Hall

Members Present: Pam Gillis, Pete Davis, Andy Dumas, Mike Remington, Mike Rocheleau, Dick Sears, Chris Smith

Absent: Terry Hook

1. Public comment: No public present.
2. The minutes of the July 25 meeting were approved as amended.
3. We received no formal responses to our RFP for the following work:
 - a) Improvement to chronically wet sections of the Out and Back Trail (Valley side); and
 - b) Improvement to the section of trail that links the trails coming from the Browns Trace trailhead and the trail along the southwestern edge of the Fire Swamp (Hill side).

We discussed approaches to remedying these areas and the extent to which we could complete trail improvements ourselves in a low-impact manner. If we could use a Bobcat, we could bring in rock to help prevent erosion on the Hill side trail, and possibly create box culverts where appropriate. Andy will look into options for small equipment usage, including the Jericho Highway Department, as the Town Garage is adjacent to the Browns Trace parking area. For the Valley side, puncheons over wet areas are being considered. Dick will see if Brooke Scatchard might be interested in looking at the project.

4. Our Request for Bid for Field Brush Hogging has been released, with no responses received yet (due date is September 20). The Mobbs Farm Management Plan includes a rotating schedule for brush-hogging field sections to maintain low-stature vegetation.
5. Peter Gray has located suitable stones on the Mobbs property for the planned stone bench memorial for Phyllis Gray. He will flag the stones for our consideration for removal/relocation. The Conservation Commission will apprise the Mobbs Committee of their bench design and construction plans as they progress.
6. Mobbs App Update: Mike Rocheleau is researching development possibilities.
7. Other Business:
 - a) We need to mow the section of trail that leads from the Browns Trace parking area toward the woods via the field beside the cap. Dick has a DR Trimmer, but the logistics of getting the equipment to the property would be onerous. We will ask Andy Forsberg, who mows the Mobbs Valley trails, to also mow this trail as soon as he can schedule it.
 - b) We are seeing social trails developing on the Hill side. To discourage use of these unofficial trails, we will create obstacles so that the established trail network is better defined.
 - c) The next trail work day will be scheduled at the next meeting for either October 15 or October 22.
8. Next meeting is scheduled for September 26 at 7:00 pm.