

City of Shelton Trails Committee

Meeting Minutes for
July 5, 2017



Present: Bill Dyer (Chair), Richard Skudlarek, Bob Wood, Terry Gallagher, Val Gosset, Sandie Skudlarek **Absent:** Sheri Dutkanicz, Jim Taradine. **Also present:** Teresa Gallagher, Natural Resource Manager

The meeting was called to order by Bill Dyer, Chairman, at 5:40 pm.

1. Meeting Minutes: Bob Wood made a motion to approve the June 2017 meeting minutes. Seconded by Richard Skudlarek. All were in favor.

2. Recent Trail Activities:

- A. Richard Skudlarek and Jim Taradine mowed along parts of the Rec Path and the Paugussett Trail (photo).
- B. The work party schedule for Nells Rock Trail was cancelled due to rain.
- C. The Lollipop League Challenge website was finalized and printouts of the challenge packet were made available. Val Gosset created the webpages, with input from Richard Skudlarek and Teresa Gallagher.
- D. Teresa Gallagher cut out and flagged potential new route through heavy barberry for the Paugussett between Constitution Blvd and the Wiacek property. Joe Singh, a prospective Eagle Scout, is lined up to clear the route and create the trail. CFPA was consulted and gave the OK.
- E. Bill Dyer had one of the leaf blowers repaired.
- F. Terry Gallagher repaired two map boxes that were smashed by vandals, and created two new doors for the Hope Lake kiosk, also smashed by vandals.
- G. Teresa Gallagher completed a Birchbank reroute that was started by SHS students in 2016.
- H. Teresa Gallagher has kept the Bluff Walk at Riverview Park clear of vegetation behind the small ballfield. The reroute down into the woods behind the ballfields completed last fall has made this much easier. There is only about 100 feet that needs to be kept clear now.



- I. CFPA continued work on trail improvements to the Paugussett Trail at Indian Well State Park, including the stairs on the beach access trail, which is part of Shelton's Lollipop League Challenge. Teresa Gallagher rerouted a portion of that access trail so it is less steep.

3. Projects planned for the near future:

- A. **2017 "Lollipop Loop" Trails Challenge:** Sandie Skudlarek shared a path tag design. There was support for the general design. Teresa Gallagher will refine it and obtain a purchase order for the tags.
- B. **Rec Path Fence at Silent Waters:** There was general agreement that the Trails Committee members could not continue replacing rails and posts because it was too time consuming and was keeping them from maintaining the hiking trails. Some of the posts and lower rails need to be replaced and this is more difficult than replacing top rails. A contractor should be hired. Bill Dyer said he would bring the issue up at the Conservation Commission meeting.
- C. **Benches:** Sandie Skudlarek shared a color chart for paint to be used on the concrete supports.
- D. **Paugussett relocation at Wiacek:** Scout Joe Singh originally planned to do the work early in July, but that has been pushed back.

4. Guided Hikes/Events:

- A. The Dog Park/Garden Path hike was rescheduled to July 22 at 9:00 a.m. because most Trails Committee members had conflicts in their schedules.
- B. August – none

5. Potential Work Parties:

- A. July 8 Paugussett Trail at Eklund Garden
- B. July 22 No work party (guided hike instead)

6. Expenses:

- A. Terry Gallagher submitted receipts totaling \$199.69 for supplies to repair the kiosk.
- B. Richard Skudlarek submitted expenses totaling \$32.89 for paint and gas.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm. The next meeting will be held on August 2, 2017.

Minutes were prepared by Teresa Gallagher and should be considered a draft until approved by the Trails Committee.