

# TOWN OF WOODBURY

281 Main Street South  
Woodbury, Connecticut 06798-0369  
(203)263-3467 ~ www.woodburyct.org

## TROLLEY BED PLANNING COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 12, 2016  
7:00 p.m., Park and Rec House

### Members Attending:

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Nancy Bailey | Chris Wood   |
| Tom Ecsedy   | David Taylor |
| Terri Hale   | Bob Travers  |

Also attending: K. Doyle, G. Whan, R. Lamothe, M. Petrocelli, other members of the public.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Travers seated the six members present; a quorum was established. Chairman Travers referenced Section 8-21 of Connecticut General Statutes and Section 921 of the Town Charter, Conflict of Interest.

**PRESENTATION BY GEOFF WHAN** – Mr. Whan, who is the Flanders' Land Management Committee Chairman, gave a summary of what management of the Whittemore Property entails. Mr. Whan noted that the Whittemore is much larger in area than the reservoir property, with more trails. He also explained that Flanders manages many other parcels as well, but his talk focused on just the Whittemore. Mr. Whan said the structure of their management includes a Chairman and several strong leaders in charge of individual tasks. He outlined the steps that Flanders has considered as part of the management effort.

1. Create a management plan – includes deciding on uses and limits such as horses, bikes, pond use; establishing and defining the trail system, and outlining scheduled and as-needed maintenance such as blazing, plowing, clearing brush.
2. Find and mark boundaries – includes finding and marking (Flanders marks about every 150 feet with yellow markings facing inward and signs facing outward), and walking the borders annually
3. Establish trail and property maintenance – includes blazing trails and updating maps about every 3 years, scheduling monitors to walk trails 2-4 times annually and report trail conditions and actions, establish maintenance teams of two persons and occasional trail work parties (to clear trees and overgrowth, maintain boardwalks, etc.), and checking the parking area weekly to remove trash, replenish maps, weed-whack, and checking the ponds including clearing culverts and checking beaver activity. Mr. Whan said that there are no trash cans as trash policy is carry in/carry out, and that a subcontractor plows and grades the parking lot. He also noted that Flanders keeps a "To Do List" with tracking and reporting and history. All of this activity is estimated to take about 60 hours per year.
4. Erect and maintain information kiosks – includes one person monitoring and keeping up to date with any information. Mr. Whan stressed that it is important to Flanders to keep the parking/entrance area neat and inviting. He also recommended keeping the number of volunteers small so tasks are easier to manage and quality easier to ensure.

T. Ecsedy asked about Scouts putting numbers on the trees at Whittemore. Mr. Whan explained that this is part of an Eagle Scout project to make it easier for first responders to locate people on the property. He also said Flanders has had other Eagle Scout projects completed, and this could be a possible source of project volunteer work.

T. Hale asked if horseback riding was allowed; Mr. Whan answered no. He said that Flanders has considered requests from groups such as bike clubs, but none have gone forward. C. Wood noted that on a property he was familiar with there was a bike group that helped with maintenance and erosion control on trails they were allowed to use. Mr. Whan said that Flanders does now have a leash control policy for dogs on the property. T. Hale asked how that was enforced. Mr. Whan said it is posted and they have not had complaints lately.

Chairman Travers asked how many people Mr. Whan would guess it would take to maintain the reservoir/trolley bed property. Mr. Whan said that Flanders does Whittemore management essentially with two people, but they are out once a week.

N. Bailey asked if stone is put down on trails; Mr. Whan answered no, except in parking areas.

D. Taylor asked who thinned trees on the property; Mr. Whan answered that there is a local nursery that does this on occasion for free. Some other services are donated as well.

**PRESENTATION BY RICH LAMOTHE** – Mr. Lamothe, Woodbury Public Works Director, answered questions from the Committee members. Chairman Travers asked what the department has the capacity to do toward maintenance at the reservoir/trolley bed property, including things such as trash removal and drainage improvement. Mr. Lamothe said that about 15 years ago they put in some drainage piping at the bottom of the trail (on the Town easement) and opened up the path. He said that they could probably fit in 3-4 days per year for projects and maintenance. C. Wood asked how it works with Park and Rec's other areas of responsibility. Mr. Lamothe said that the Public Works Dept. does parking area grading every year, plus tree trimming and large field mowing projects. N. Bailey asked if Park and Rec has an employee to do daily monitoring and needed maintenance. Mr. Lamothe said they do, and that would be the person most likely who would look over the property and do basic mowing and other regular maintenance. If he (Mike Lodice) can not handle a task, Park and Rec contacts Public Works for assistance. C. Wood asked if Public Works could construct a parking area like the one by Three Rivers Park; Mr. Lamothe said with proper notice and budget they could. He also recommends no trash receptacles be installed. He said as far as parking, he could see some parking on Scuppo Road in the upper area where there is a turnaround and no houses, and where the Town owns land. He said the road itself had too narrow a Town right-of-way to have established parking. The area toward the old road end could be marked for about 6 cars and would not require much more maintenance than is already done. Chairman Travers asked if Mr. Lamothe thought it would be possible to shut the Trolley Bed Road for through traffic and make that a parking area. Mr. Lamothe said he would have to look at it, but it might be a good idea. N. Bailey asked if parking could be made part of the Middle Quarter Road bridge replacement; Mr. Lamothe said the bridge would be wider but with one lane and a sidewalk, and it could possibly have some parking. C. Wood suggested that parallel parking between the bridge and the business plaza might be possible.

#### **OLD BUSINESS –**

**DEEP EASEMENT DRAFT** – Chairman Travers reported that the concerns discussed during last month's meeting have been sent to the Board of Selectmen.

**MEMBERS' TIME** – Chairman Travers followed up on a potential speaker suggested at the last meeting. He noted that she charges a fee, and also is more historical in expertise. As such, he thought she would not be an appropriate presenter for the Committee, but that local groups may be very interested in hosting her presentation. N. Bailey excused herself from the meeting at 7:45.

Chairman Travers distributed a Draft Usage Document, with attachment, which was done by Chris Wood for Committee members to review and use as a basis for discussion. He would like to see the Draft moved for adoption at the next meeting to get it on the table for discussion, then after discussion, additions and amendments, it could be revised and accepted for submission to the Board of Selectmen. C. Wood will also send a digital copy of this plus a link to slides from his presentation to all Committee members with online access, as well as eventually to the Board of Selectmen (public copy will also be placed in the Town Planners' Office). T. Ecsedy said he has tried repeatedly to contact Steep Rock about use conflicts, but has not been able to get a satisfactory follow up from them, so he will conclude his efforts.

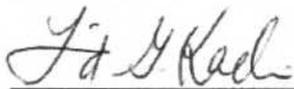
**CORRESPONDENCE** – None.

**MINUTES** – T. Hale moved to approve the August 22 meeting minutes; seconded by T, Ecsedy. Minutes unanimously (5-0) approved.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** – None.

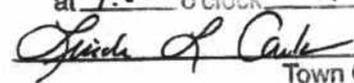
**ADJOURNMENT**- C. Wood moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda G. Kaelin, Clerk

RECEIVED & FILED  
IN WOODBURY, CT

This 15 day of Sept 2016  
at 9:02 o'clock A M  
  
Town Clerk