WELLESLEY TRAILS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 26, 2019

Attendees: Bob Brown, Joan Gaughan, Diane Hall, Steve Park, Denny Nackoney, Laura Robert (NRC Liaison), John Schuler, Ekaterina Zemlyakova
Absent: Miguel Lessing, Jared Parker, James Pugh
Guest: Chris Crawley

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

No one attended for Citizens Speak.

A motion to approve the 1/15/19 WTC meeting minutes by Denny was followed by a second from Diane. The vote carried unanimously.

Laura summarized the possibility for Wellesley to participate in the City Nature Challenge happening April 26th-29th. The challenge aims to involve community members in observing and reporting identifications of flora and fauna via the iNaturalist app. The Wellesley Conservation Council will sponsor a speaker as well. More information for discussion will be forthcoming.

The committee discussed leaders and sweepers for the spring walks, reassigning the Lower Falls walk to Joan. Ekaterina will sweep all walks.

Denny reported on concerns over the public right of way at 69 Pine Plain Road that provides a path to Boulder Brook Reservation and the Bates Elementary school. The house sold recently and is expected to be knocked down and rebuilt. The NRC is following the situation.

Diane updated the committee on issues near the recently installed bench at Centennial Park. The DPW trimmed tree branches that block the view. Several shortcuts to the rerouted path have developed at the top of the meadow. It was suggested that the DPW lay a bed of woodchips to more clearly mark the intended path and eliminate shortcuts.

A letter of support was submitted to the Mass Historical Commission for a preservation award to the MWRA for the exemplary renovation of the siphon houses on the Sudbury Aqueduct.

The Trails Project List was then opened for discussion:

- The DPW will direct work pursuant to a grant issued to the Town to study possibilities for a Route 9 pedestrian crossing for the Crosstown Trail on the Cochituate Aqueduct. The DPW has prepared a statement of work.
- Bumpers will be installed in the State Street parking lot in the spring to prevent car overhang on the adjacent walking path.
- There are trees down in various spots on the trails. Steve will review the cleanup work needed.
- The committee will advocate to have a path established where the Sudbury Path runs along Benvenue Street. Denny and/or Joan will contact selectman who may be working on related pedestrian mobility efforts.
- Denny continues to monitor flooding of the Sudbury Path at Babson College and advocate for a remedy.
- Diane will review the inventory of apparel and promotional items in advance of placing an order to replenish these items.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:00 PM in the NRC office.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Documents available by request: Trails Project List February 26, 2019, Wellesley Trails Spring Walks 2019 flyer

Steve Park
Vice Chair, Wellesley Trails Committee