

Walden Parks Committee
June 2023 Monthly Meeting

Date: June 7, 6:05-6:55pm ; Walden Town Hall

Attendees:, Christian Tartaglia, Larry Skaggs, Lance Pope, Emily Lindner, Karen Stone, Tal Cohen, Caroline *, Eddie the Dog

Minutes: Emily Lindner

Introduction of new members: n/a

General Business:

- April 19 minutes approved (6:06)

Mabbitt Springs Park Update: 6:06-:28, Larry

- Trail Update: Larry met with Eagle Scout (Jackson Lockery, Troop 60; leader is Jason Lockery) interested in refurbishing the bridge; he provided a photograph plan and a list of supplies and equipment <\$1000.
 - o main footings are stable and sound, as inspected; everything above will be rebuilt with pressure-treated wood and metal
 - o Troop has adopted Mabbitt Springs and will do regular trail maintenance quarterly or at committee request
- Karen moves to accept bridge rebuild proposal; committee rep will present at next Town Council mtg for board approval
- Lance cannot attend 6/13 mtg for approval; he will send the proposal to admins in advance of mtg; Tal will attend mtg and Karen will be there too on another issue

Falling Water Falls: 6:13 Tal

- Trail update: Tal said the proposal for boulders is approved and the purchase order is going to happen
- Tal needs to speak to the supplier (Dunlap Stone and Service) about the additional costs for moving the rocks after delivery (i.e., delivery fee included only)
 - o He will ask Jeremy about contact on the rock moving; find out cost of the person to help us move
- Safety issue raised by Emily; sign? State has been adamantly against any warning/safety signage, per Tal
 - o Perhaps a sign at the head of the trail where we have trailhead signs or where it crosses onto private property; current sign has the local police sign and a few reminders only? We can add a safety/awareness warning to that kiosk or new signage we put in place

- Can we work with Jack to gift him a sign to alert people to the idea that trail is on private property once you cross the water and to stay on the trail?
- Karen: to send the town sign information to Tal so we can get the uniform sign

Griffiss park: 6:30, Karen

- Triangle shape; E Brow and Altura
 - o 3 families have taken care of it but have aged out and it's overgrown
 - o One railroad tie is broken and fallen and needs to be reattached/replaced
 - o Pine tree fallen that needs to be removed
 - o No water is there
 - o Plantings need to be native b/c of lack of water
- Monument to Mrs Griffiss on the property (maybe by Charlie Scott?)
 - o Karen may ask/research who Penelope Lyle Griffiss was
- Karen suggests we only have to clean it up and fix the RR tie
- Lance suggests we spend up to \$500 to chip up the tree and the brush pile
 - o Karen makes the motion to spend for tree, brush, and a new railroad tie
 - o Karen suggests approach John Cook who lives nearby and may maintain it
- SEE ADDENDUM with follow-up emails regarding final information and decisions

Connectivity: No update

Disc Golf: No update; Karen has had no response from trying several times to contact Beau Chamberlain

Date for next meeting - July 5 , 2023 @6pm, set for next meeting

Adjourn 6:53pm

ADDENDUM to
Walden Parks Committee June 2023 Monthly Meeting

The following emails sent to the committee members addressed issues taken up by the committee at the June 2023 mtg regarding Griffiss Park maintenance and upkeep:

Penelope Lyle Griffiss Park, tree removal and chipping

Good Evening,

Per the agenda item of tree removal and brush pile chipping and removal at Griffiss Park:

My neighbor who owns a tree service company, Eric Henley, said it would cost about \$300-400. That is based on my description and not a site visit, however I am confident that it would not change much and it does come in below what was approved in committee. If the parks neighbor, Barbara?, ends up not wanting to pay for the service or if she gets a higher quote he is happy to come out and do the work.

That is all. I hope everyone has a great rest of the week.

Christian A. Tartaglia

Owner

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RE: Penelope Lyle Griffiss Park

Karen Paul Stone

Hello, Friends,

Thank, Christian.

Leslie Millwood is a man who has worked in this area for both Linda & Walter Puckett, and for Barbie Wilson. He also used to work for the Town of Walden. He looked at the situation and said he would cut up the offending tree and throw the logs back into the woods to biodegrade for \$85.00. No need for chipping, hauling, etc. He can bill the Town directly for his work – a process approved by Ellen. The offending pine-tree-top brush pile is gone. All of the grass surrounding the “garden” inside the railroad ties has been cut very short. Not sure if the Town of Walden or Ted Tumelaire did the mowing, but everything is temporarily clean. Ted says he will continue to mow the right-of-way up to the corner. Tumelaires are fine with whatever we do on that corner and in “their” woods, because they leave it completely alone to let nature handle undergrowth, fallen limbs, etc. I have not yet talked with Jon Cooke who owns the property surrounding the waterfall east of East Brow. As a reminder, I would like to ask Jon if he would be willing to take over grooming the park and watching for anything needed.

We need to weed the garden plot and reinstall one (or more) railroad tie. Cost of the tie(s) is \$26.68 each at Home Depot. We should also get a few strong-ties or brackets to hold the pieces together (98 cents up to \$5 depending on what is chosen.) Town of Walden will order and pay for the tie and brackets. We need to pick it (them) up and drop off.

This means if we don’t actually do any work ourselves except weeding, and we ask the Town to foot the bill, the labor costs would probably be less than \$150 and materials would be as many railroad ties as we need to install. I have not taken a tool and picked at the current ties to see if others should be replaced at the same time.

I have discussed this with Ellen Young at the Town Hall. The project has been approved. What I need from you all is input on what labor we will provide for weeding, installing the tie, etc.

I learned that it was Charles Scott, DDS, who used to tend the park so carefully. He is the one who planted the jonquils, etc. The Pucketts used to string a hose from their place (Knollcrest) on top of the hill down so Charlie could carry buckets across the road to water. He is likely to have been the one to install the marker, but this is speculation. If anyone want to do a search, they might be able to solve the riddle. It might be interesting to put into the Town records.

Thanks. Please indicate what to do next.

Karen

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