

Pownal Conservation Committee

Meeting minutes for January 26, 2015

Attendees: Matt Welch, Derek Lovitch, Rosemary Whitney, Sherry Dietrich, Ruth Hannan

The November meeting minutes were read and approved. (There wasn't a meeting in December).

Matt and Rosemary attended a Selectmen's meeting regarding the existing trails off Elmwood Road and the possibility of adding them to Royal River Conservation Trust's trail map. Some concerns were raised about adding a parking lot. Also, Tim Giddinge said that RRCT would have to submit an application to the Recreation Committee to ask if they consider them as trails. Matt and Rosemary felt that part of the concern was to have Pownal land and/or trails opened and publicized to the general public and attracting people from outside Pownal. We recognize that the Selectmen have a valid point.

Sherry told us about the process to discuss the Verrill Road town property. She looked for a public notice of a meeting, but was not aware of any. Since then the property has sold. Sherry says there is now a 12-acre town-owned property (Map 8 Lot 9) that may be up for sale.

Sherry told us that Map 2 Lot 8 is no longer a town-owned property. It is now included in Bradbury Mountain State Park. There is another property that now has its own lot number (on Route 9 just north of the Town Hall) and is to be used by the Fire Department. Due to the use by the Fire Department, it was agreed that we won't add to the spreadsheet being compiled by our commission.

Matt will review the town's forest management plan to glean information that could be included in the spreadsheet.

Rosemary will draft a letter to the Selectmen asking them to clarify our charge as a commission.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 23rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Hannan