

LAND STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE
Town Hall Chambers – 8 Newmarket Road
Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2024

Members Attending: Gale Carey, John Carroll, Darrell Ford, Myrta Janosz, and Marty Gorham.

Absent: Ted Howard, Neil Slepian, Ann Welsh, Larry Brickner-Wood, and John Nachilly.

Also attending: Sara Callaghan, Rachel Gasowski, and Todd Selig.

1. The Meeting was called to order at 8:32am by Gale Carey.
2. The meeting agenda was approved.
3. The minutes for the July 10, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved with one abstention.
4. Discover Durham Trails

Rachel Gasowski, Parks & Recreation Director presented an informational flyer and discussed the department's program of monthly guided walks.

5. Durham Housing Task Force

Sally Tobias and Heather Grant of the Durham Housing Task Force explained the work and goals of the task force, and how the current town zoning ordinances impact local housing development. The task force is open to, and asking for, input from members of the LSSC.

6. Land Stewardship Coordinator Sara Callaghan Updates.

Longmarsh Preserve - Material has been ordered to repair the existing bog bridges.

Jackson's Landing – Poison ivy is present along the trails to the extent that it is a hazard for users. Because manual removal cannot be scheduled until sometime next year, Durham Public Works is planning to treat the trail areas with herbicide. The procedure will be permitted with the NH Dept. of Agriculture and performed by trained personnel in conformance with DPW procedures.

West Foss Farm – The White Trail has been rerouted and is now open.

Trail Accessibility Study – A proposal from Enock Glidden from Go Beyond the Fence was presented. The scope of work includes areas of Wagon Hill Farm, Jackson's Landing, Oyster River Forest and Thompson Forest. The LSSC voted in the affirmative to recommend that the Conservation Commission accept the proposal.

Easement Monitoring – Sara invited LSSC members to participate in easement monitoring of the Beaudette property and the Oyster River Forest.

Farm Day – Sara invited LSSC members to work at the Discover Durham Trail's booth at the LaRoche Farm on Saturday, August 17, 2024.

7. Reports from Committees

Parks and Recreation – Rachel stated the data collection for the Durham Parks & Recreation Community Survey is ongoing.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 10:37am.

The next meeting is planned for Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 8:30 am in the Town Hall Chambers.