

KUNCANOWET TOWN FOREST AND CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: July 26, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Jarvis, Margaret Watkins, Darlene Jarvis, Larry Cook, Fred Mullen, Brett St. Clair

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Groleau, Peggy Senter, Ed White

Minutes: April's minutes were accepted

OLD BUSINESS:

Fogg's field

Ron reported that he and Ed White worked to clear the brush along the edges of the field. Ed tackled the growth along Gorham Pond Road while Ron used the brush cutter along Greenhalges's wall. Both ended up with poison ivy. On May 10th Ron returned to cut brush near the edge of McKay's line and two weeks later he removed the growth around 3 sides of the barn's stone foundation. Ed and Ron stressed that it would take hundreds of hours to cut back the brush and bittersweet along the stone walls. The brush is now growing in what field, out 5 to 15 feet from the walls.

Spraying to control the poison ivy was discussed again. Fred Mullen and Margaret Watkins agreed that Ortho Weed B Gone is capable of killing poison ivy. Margaret suggested that it is most effective if sprayed in the fall since the roots appear to absorb the herbicide and kill it. Donna Dunn gave Ron the name of a person who had done some spraying for her. Ron called this person but never got a call back.

Jon Wiggin did cut the field in the spring and billed the Committee \$800. Ron pointed out that paying for two mowings a year will quickly deplete our limited funds. Ron volunteered to ask Jon Wiggin if eliminating this year's fall mowing is feasible or if that might it make the field difficult to mow next year.

Boundary blazing

Essentially none of the blazing has been done as yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trail work day

Members chose the morning of September 10th to work in the Kuncanowet. Margaret Watkins informed the group that a tree is down between the bridge and Lost Lake. In July Fred Mullen found a couple trees down on Hobblebush which he removed. Brett St. Clair said he might like to blaze some of the boundary lines on the 10th.

Fire in the Kuncanowet

Fred Mullen described the events of July 4th when approximately half an acre on the east side of Lost Lake burned. Several people were seen carrying camping type gear from the trail head on the day

before. After the fire a number of similar items were found at the scene. The Dunbarton Police Department is investigating. Fred reported that he has put up several “no fire” signs.

Fred asked whether a “corduroy road” could be constructed where the main trail is wet in order to make it easier to get equipment into the area. Ed White suggested that the poplar trees along the wet sections of the main trail could be used to construct such a road.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 10, 2016 (Saturday) – Kuncanowet trail workday, meet at 9 AM at the trailhead at the end of Holiday Shore Drive

NEXT MEETING: October 25, 2016, 7:30 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Darlene M. Jarvis