

HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Land Stewardship Subcommittee

MINUTES OF MEETING –approved 3/08/2011

January 11, 2011

Members Present: Wendy Sisson, Jim Adelson, Ron Kusner, Marc Sevigny, Phil Knoetner, Pam Durrant

Members not Present: Bob Benson, George Watkins

Wendy Sisson called the meeting to order at 7:20 P.M. in the Old Library

- Minutes of previous meeting revised and unanimously approved
- Discussion on the Pin Hill site walk that took place in December. Suggestion to replace the sign decayed sign on Depot Road. Suggestion to improve the trail markers. Discussion about the increasing width of the main trail used by snowmobiles. Some discussion about the groomer purchased by the club and its impacts on trails.
- Ron recently walked the Town Forest off of Poor Farm Road. He mentioned that there is a network of unmarked and ad-hoc trails, presumably carved by the snowmobile club.
- Ron will be the keeper of centralized records for the subcommittee that are used to monitor trail usage for changes in use patterns.
- Winter burn for Holy Hill slash from the fall field maintenance should take place in March. March seems optimal to avoid the fire danger that often arises in April. Ground can still be snowcovered, which provides more protection against brush fires. Mark will talk to the new fire chief about possible use of equipment for dousing.
- Hermann Orchard – Some discussion about apple tree removal, grinding, tree pluckers, etc. Salvaging the trees seems unlikely, Carlson is not interested, difficult access.
- Wendy suggested all members keep notes on invasives and trail dangers (snags, etc).
- Next meeting scheduled for Feb 8.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.