Minutes

Attendees: Bob Mihalek, Brian Belfer, Jim Klinkenber, Forest Lyford, Sherral Devine, Bill Cobb, Craig Cox
Additional Attendees: Kathy Joubert (Town Planner), Ashley Davies, John Campbell

7:05 p.m.  Bob opened the meeting.
Approval of minutes for the meeting on August 16, 2021. September minutes still needed to be drafted.

Kathy was in attendance to discuss plans for applying for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to assist the completion of the MWRA Aqueduct trail project. The two main steps are 1) completing the foot path heading north from Edmund Hill Woods to the Berlin town line and 2) designing and building the deck to cross the historic stone arch bridge over the Assabet River. A motion was made to move forward with the CPA applications, the motion was seconded and a unanimous role call vote followed.

Kathy also discussed a CPA application to complete the work on an accessible trail around the area of Edmund Hill Woods near the Senior Center on Bearfoot Rd. There was a unanimous role call vote in support of this project.

Ashley presented information on plan to for CPA (supplemented with funds from other agencies as well) to look into a multi-use trail in Northborough that would connect the existing aqueduct trail with a proposed east-west multi-use path from Worcester to Framingham. There was a unanimous vote to write a letter of support for this proposal.

John mentioned the Conservation Committee is still actively seeking CPA funds for conservation projects in town. Brian was contacted by a concerned resident that there appears to be an excess of dog waste on the aqueduct trail near Rice Ave. The town may be able to put additional signs up to encourage dog owners to pick up after their pets. Bill discussed his effort to re-open the Fisherman’s access path along the Assabet River by clearing vegetation and also waiting for the water level to drop after all the rain this summer. Sherral raised the issue that the rain this summer eroded the trail leading into Old Farm Trail. This section will need to be re-built with water divergent barriers put in place. Bill mentioned that the Chapin Canal historical feature could use some work with both chainsaws and lawn mowers.

8:52 p.m.  Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Mihalek, Chair