

Sherborn Town Forest Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 5:00PM

S. Petty moved to accept the minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting.

S. VanBlarcom seconded.

Minutes accepted

Discussion of maintenance and added safety features to the Pine Thrill and Extended Day mountain bike trails was led by Rafe Leeman.

Widening of trails to provide space around rocky or steep drop off areas and wooden ramps over boulders.

Question asked regarding trail width – only wide enough for bike and rider (a couple of feet)

Question asked about liability – same as other recreation areas in Town (Farm Pond, ball fields, playgrounds, etc)

Concern shared of walker/mountain biker encounter – No known issues to date, bikers often ride for several hours and don't encounter hikers. Concern noted and more signage may be needed.

Concern of lack of signage and erosion on Mount Misery mountain bike trail voiced – more signage will be provided and erosion of trail to be part of ongoing maintenance.

Site visit for this area on Aug. 23 at 9:00AM at Farm Rd. Town Forest crossing.

Discussion of Mountain Bike Skills Park presented by James Wharton and Rafe Leeman.

Bike park to be built on high flat ground in Town Forest area designated as Park Land south of Pine Hill School.

Wooden berms or wall rides, slightly elevated wooden bridges of varying widths and shape and use of existing rocks to create other features where terrain offers.

Site visit of this area Aug. 31 at 9:00AM at Pine Hill School.

The North Main Street parking area has been approved by Conservation Committee and the area has been mowed. Work on the parking area, which will have space for 5 to 6 cars, will begin soon. The DPW is assisting in this project.

The area behind and across the tracks from the North Main Street parking area, where the red pines were harvested, is going to be used as a nursery for town tree planting, an area for mulching and an area for piling logs until ground up or cut into firewood.

Deer Hunting will be allowed in Town Forest again this year during hunting season.

An area of Town Forest off Prospect Street will be logged in the near future. This will be a select cut logging operation. Work will not begin until the Forester has presented the forest plan and the Select Board has been notified. A small parking area will be created off Prospect Street when the logging is complete.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05PM

Approved at the September 15, 2022 meeting