

**Ingleside Utilization Committee
Meeting at Ingleside Property
November 13, 2017**

Present: Fran Murphy, Dawn Bilodeau, Guy Corbosiero, Ken LaBrack, Jane LaPointe, Dave Romanowski, Greg Vine

Public: Winchendon School students and advisors, Rick Lucier

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes of 10/23/17 meeting approved

Winchendon School Service Learning & Ingleside

The School has two related groups: Trail and Water (Millers River Watershed/River Rat Program)

The Trail group is focused on 3 major trails: 1) Elm Street, 2) around the field, 3) opposite Woodlawn Ave through old growth forest. They are producing a survey of each trail, looking at specific areas of need to make each a good path: 1) identify issues, i.e. drainage issues and 2) identify how to resolve these issues

The students are also thinking about trail usage – beyond the rehabilitation of the trails: i.e. an environmental education club to get kids more involved with trails, hiking

The School/students were receptive/aligned with comments from the IUC: the mission to build community and recruit other resources; involve Murdock students and community volunteers; to be inclusive – across ages; have trails that incorporate picnic, exercise/fitness, bird and nature observation with a portion that are ADA compliant; build stewardship for Ingleside/the environment. Involvement with Ingleside is a long-term commitment for the Service Learning students. It is viewed as a learning experience/opportunity. (Note: Mr. Harvey commented that learning about grant writing should be part of this)

Some initial areas for coordination/communication between the IUC and School

- Meet to review their trail survey.
- Develop ways to coordinate communication and activities and to reach into the broader town community. Facebook will be a major vehicle. The School has lots they could post, especially during the winter when they can't be working on trails.
- The School will produce a map of the trails. Something to include in the Robinson Broadhurst proposal (due at the Town Manager's office on 12/13 or 14). Consider how to involve the students in the grant drafting/review process (?)

Questions/offers from Mr. Harvey who lived at Ingleside for 15 years: 1) will motorized vehicles be prohibited at Ingleside (IUC needs to follow-up with policy/posting); 2) consider the name Ingleside Forest; 3) he knows a lot about the buildings as well as the land and is available as a resource. Reminder that clearing trails for winter use has to factor in snow height when trimming tree branches

Old Business

Mission and Responsibilities

Greg moved these be accepted with a change in the second paragraph from recreation to recreational. Guy seconded. Vote unanimous.

New Member Recruiting

Dave will approach CJ to have a BOS member on the IUC. Among other benefits, this should help with communication and coordination between the IUC and BOS

The Winchendon School may provide a student representative; this will be a local day student

Promote Access

An active FaceBook page and the map from the Winchendon School can be used to attract people to the IUC and to the property.

Guy will set up this page as a Group. He will maintain the page.

New Business

Short Term Plan

This will be informed by Robinson-Broadhurst grant proposal

Robinson-Broadhurst Grant

Focus on:

1. Trails and activities/amenities related to trails: benches, picnic tables (including ADA accessible tables), trail markers, bird houses, exercise stops, scavenger hunts
2. New exit opposite Woodlawn Ave

To do's: (for 12/13 submission to Town Manager's office)

1. Ken and Fran will meet with Al Gallant to discuss details re the new exit and to gather available cost information: benches, picnic tables etc.
2. Jane will draft proposal with placeholders for details on materials, costs
3. ? follow up with Winchendon School on map, etc.
4. Greg will invite Sarah Wells of Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust to our next meeting and ask her to share her experience/advice on trails/activities related to the R-B proposal. (Sarah, MRPC, MA DCR may be able to identify other grant sources for environmental education programs – that would make use of the trails; something important for the R-B grant application)

Next Meeting Agenda

1. Mount Grace
2. R-B proposal/costs

3. Tenant caretaker for Ingleside

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM

Minutes Approved November 28, 2017