

Friends of Wompatuck
Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2007

In attendance: Steve G., Steve C., Jim D, Jim R., Eric O., Carl S., Kevin C., Mark S., several guests

Officers Absent: Bill B., Chris H

Old Business

Landmine: Discussion about funds raised. Talked briefly about pro's and con's about having NEMBAFEST again realizing we need to talk to Bill when he is here. Steve G. also talked about wanting to bring in other user groups such as geo caching, runners, kayaking, as well as biking. He was thinking about still having a two day event something like a Wompyfest bringing in vendors on a Saturday and make it a multi use type event. Kevin and Carl arrived and the discussion continued about possible involvement with NEMBAFEST and Wompyfest. Possibly bring in SENEMBA for a WOMPYfest. When would we do a WOMPYFEST vs. NEMBAFEST / Landmine. May have a shuttle company on contract which we could use for shuttling bikes and people if additional parking is needed. We need to identify contacts for each user group.

Mark brought up the idea about having other types of races like running or some type of tri event. Steve G said that would be possible.

Talked about new trails. Not possible from Scout area three to Mt. Hope would not work. Terrain is much too wet. Steve G also brought up the idea of having a real bridge built between Ice house pond and the Aaron reservoir to give eventual bike trail access to Picture Pond loop. Steve gave initial approval for new trail near Heron Pond coming out of the reservoir biking area.

Jim D- Let Steve know that many trees down in the park right now. Steve felt that cut backs are needed still throughout the park for the park service day and we should spend time on that rather than building the new trail b/c it would be easy.

Wompatuck Whatchamacallit- Steve G. said it went well. 25 colleges represented. No injuries reported.

Bunker Update: One phase of bunker project is done- the garden and historical board. Other scouts are continuing to work on their projects and are hoping to get ramp poured this fall.

New Business

Geo cache- 4 people here to talk about this in Wompatuck. Geocaching is a scavenger hunt using gps units to find small prizes/ a sign in log. In Wompatuck we have 31 active geocaches. In 2006, we had 1400 finds of geocache in Wompatuck alone. A lot of users. Steve G said DCR has a permitting process in place and would like to review where current sites are located so he can give the go ahead. Steve said the Friends can help with identifying the sites and let Steve know whether they are good sites or not. Permit forms have to be gotten for each site but are free. Policy in a state park is to not go off trails. Check out geocacheing.com. Could set up an event cache for our event day. Are vendors available for people to try say at the Wompyfest? Could REI do it. SEMASS NEMBA may purchase a GPS unit to identify problem areas, map trails, etc. Steve G needs to meet with geocache people to identify sites. He wants to make sure vegetation is not getting damaged with lots of people going far off trails. It would be good to tie in caches near historical spots.

Jim D- We should have copies of newsletter available at the Visitor Center. He also brought up the idea of having people renew beginning January 1, 2007. Also, Whitney woods maps are out. Jim has been restocking and is working in conjunction with Meaghan.

Rail trail - Nothing completed this summer. The issue of the annex has come up in terms of what to do with the buildings. Currently at a stand still.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Oddleifson

FOW Secretary