

**Knot in Hyde Park Committee**  
Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 5:30 PM

***MINUTES***

Meeting by Zoom opened at 5:30. W. Lane, F. Landrey, T Breese, K. Moore and M Walz in attendance.

Apologies: R. Pearson, T. Pearson.

The Town Report deadline is imminent. MW to re-circulate the draft for any comments.

Next deadline is Town Meeting where we agreed that we should aim to speak to present our work and encourage more people to participate. This will be the subject of next meeting (Feb. 15).

WL suggested we insert a KiHP note into the tax bills as an outreach/info strategy, which Eden did re milfoil. She will confirm with Town Clerk whether that's possible and then we need to draft an insert.

Reviewed priorities for the 2023 season:

- Piloting the use of herbicide is an important step. MW to speak to Bethany Creaser at Dept of Ag to determine the permitting requirements as a first next-step. And be in touch with possibly applicator. Begin to create presentation for Select Board.
- Goats at Gamble. Wendy has done a lot of research. The 'business model' -- akin to that which is used at solar sites, where sheep are brought in for short period of time to graze around the solar panels -- could possibly work for goats/invasives. We haven't located anyone (yet) who is in that business and we are not proposing to develop it. However, it is possible that goats could be a solution to maintaining the Gamble site (which would also serve to pilot the viability of goats as tool for managing invasives) but only if Gamble can be combined with adjoining parcel to make a site large enough to sustain goats for the season. MW to investigate adjoining parcel. We would still need to find goats and goatherder. This is clearly a long-shot, but it's winter and there is time to investigate.
- Root Disposal site. If we cannot find a way to maintain gamble then we will need to find another site for root drying. FL noted the long-term importance of finding a dump site that will work for ditching projects and etc. This remains a problem that needs attention and solution.
- Yes, we need to continue to collect rubber roofing. MW to be in touch with the roofing companies.
- Outreach into the LUHS. Is there something to do here while School is in session. (FL to take this up with Chris Whitlock, see below)
- EDRR remains priority for stopping the spread. We will do more of this in 2023.

Other new sites for 2023.

- We agreed that we cannot entertain taking on many new sites unless and until we can expand the list of volunteers/site adoptees. Last season took a lot of time and commitment.
- FL agreed to be in touch with Chris Whitlock to start to scope out plan for maintaining the Cricket Hill Road site we worked on to closeout the 2022 season. (FL thinks there is scope for mowing a good chunk of the CH site and will discuss this with CW.)
- FL will also discuss any more ideas about reaching into the LUHS for education/possible volunteers.
- FL also has a site in mind on Diggins Rd which he would like to lead (north side near top of the hill) to stop it from spreading further down the hill. Diggins at the upper end is a very heavily infested site and has potential to spread.
- MW met with Friends of Green River Reservoir in early January to discuss sites they might be interested in tackling along the access Road. Terri Gregory of the Friends will take this up for more detailed consideration. Eric Nuse also of Friends agreed that investigating upstream exposure to the GRR is worth taking a hike to do. KiHP will provide guidance and suggestions about how to approach the access road if TG is interested.

Website/Mapping/Data

- We need to update the website for the new season. TB agrees to make changes, including fielding suggested updates from committee members. MW to draft a 2022 Season Summary.
- TB will resume work on a Google Sheets Doc so this year anyone who volunteers can enter time worked at each site rather than provide info to MW to enter on Excel. MW to provide list of Sites for Tom.
- TB to communicate with Liam Paus about adding our digital map to the Website.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 5:30 PM**

Meeting adjourned 6:30 PM.