

10 AUG -9 AM 8: 34

July 23, 2010 Hockanum River Linear Park Committee Meeting – Don Bellingham

Vernon Greenways Volunteers

- May 21 outing held for 27 middle school aged children from the Board of Education Services for the Blind (BESB) at Valley Falls Park. Activities included fly fishing, bait fishing, tour of the Braille Trail, barbeque lunch and interactive games. We have offered to redo next year or a subsequent year if that serves their needs better. Story appeared in JI. Pictures submitted to JI for publication in their "Out and About" Section. They should be in some time the week of this meeting.
- \$4,360 Pratt and Whitney Grant was realized for reprocessed gravel and stone dust for a 1,400 foot trail segment by the Chapman Property on Dart Hill South to upgrade that segment to a satisfactory level for the Walking Trail. Parks and Rec will provide additional stone dust so that there will be new stone dust from Dart Hill Park to Hockanum Blvd. Public Works will provide the machinery and labor. I expect completion, including on-site trail maps, for an opening some time in September. This will, also, provide an audience for the overlook plaques.
- A "painting party" will be held before the end of summer to paint out a wooden fence between Morrison Street and Rau Street that is covered with graffiti. The fence is 70 yards long and 5 ½ feet high. Fences are privately owned but we got permission from the owners. The Trail Manager for that area will have paint for maintenance.
- Held a maintenance work party on the Braille Trail to: remove excess growth so sun could get to plants, weed within deer netting, sweep the cement and remove weeds from the upper part of the trail.
- Held eight work parties in June to renovate plantings (clear, compost, mature manure, donated plants and mulch) at intersections of the Rail Trail and streets that it crosses. Because of the heat wave we stopped work in late June. When the Parks and Rec summer crews came on we got access to one of them to continue the work. To-date Washington Street and Elm Hill Road are complete and have been turned over to individual VGVs to maintain. Phoenix St and Warren Avenue have been cleared and compost applied. Center Road has been cleared. Part of Washington Street was torn up to put in a sidewalk and we are coordinating to get that back to where it was.

Dart Hill South Park

- A mother and 15 year old daughter have taken over as Trail Managers. Parks and Rec applied mulch to the playground and weeded/mulched the plantings.

Dart Hill North Park

- Vandalism, mostly in the form of graffiti and litter is rampant in the picnic area at the trailhead. Signs and make shift trash cans thrown into the river, graffiti on picnic tables every time I check, and litter strewn around. I will bring pictures to the meeting. We need to discuss. Summer crew weeded the trailhead.

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
10 AUG -9 AM 8:34

HRLP 7/23/2010 MTG – ARTHUR REPORT

(See Agenda for item designations)

2Ab P&R trail activity:

- Many downed trees have been cut on the trails and in the parks.
- All trails have been cleared.
- Craig Perry sent a letter to the Blue Ridge Dr owner (Kristin Kolbeck) that we thought had blocked the Rail Trail drainage ditch. She said that it was her neighbor. We apologized and I will talk to the neighbor (Rose Deschenes) – her phone is unlisted.

2Ab HRWA activity

- I no longer attend, but, do know that they had their rubber duck race.

2B Hockanum Parks & Parking Areas

- Walgreen Corner – I trimmed in front of seating benches. More trimming is needed.
- Saxony Mill – locust trees on wall were removed, soil was replaced, new roses were planted and subsequently watered and weeded.
- Tankerhoosen Dam – George to build seating bench.
- Paul's Pizza – we need a sign, employees are parking in front of our access road. The trail has been weedwhacked.

2C New Parks and trails

- Vernon Marsh – kiosk has been designed by Jeff Carlson and he will build and install it. George to build kayak/canoe platform.
- Franklin St – Vernon trail is in good shape and has three seating benches. The Ellington field trail is overgrown.
- Pleasantview Dr to Courthouse One - I inspected the trail path from Manchester to Pleasantview Dr. It should be dry except during flood.

Respectfully submitted,

George Arthur