

TOWN OF LEWISBORO
Open Space and Preserves Advisory Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 16th, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Eric Swarthout, Chair	Jim Berenson
JoAnn Hickey	Mike Surdej
Steven Morowitz	Rose Bonanno
Priscilla Schaefer	

Guests:

Nicole Caviola, Rec Supervisor
Dan Welsh, Town Board Liaison

MEETING MINUTES
Meeting called to order by Chair Swarthout at 7:04 PM
Public Comment Period - None
Old Business <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. National Trail's Day – June 3rd, 2023 – Leon Levy Preserve<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Steven Morowitz to organize; George Scott to lead walk2. GIS User Group Meeting – May 18th at SUNY Purchase. Chair Swarthout shared a copy of his presentation with the committee.3. Lamination of Posters – Ms. Caviola shared that the lamination was done by the Rec Department Staff. Several Committee members participated in installing them.4. Hats – New 'Trail Volunteer' Hats were distributed. Additional hats will be saved for future.5. Mission Statement revision. Ms. Bonanno and Ms. Schaefer agreed to make the first round of revisions and share with the committee for review.6. Preserve Reports, see attached.
New Business <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ms. Hickey brought up future meeting times, a discussion was had and a decision to leave them at 7 pm was made.2. Eagle Scout Projects were discussed. Possible projects include the Brownell boardwalk, Onatru, bridge work, Old Field Kiosk.3. Wallace property discussed, several members will plan a site visit.4. Mr. Welsh encouraged the committee members to get involved in the Master Plan Review Process
Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 13th, 2023 7:00 PM Town House 11 Main Street South Salem, NY 10590
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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Preserve Reports

Brownell

Boardwalk update – Material move to be coordinated w/ Town for June.
Mr. Twitty to speak with two Falcon Ridge Homeowner property owners about the possibility of moving material across their property.
Ms. Schaefer shared photos of tree cutting on Falcon Ridge. Matter referred to Building Department for further action.
Recent blowdown to be addressed.
Mr. Twitty's report via email:
1. Parking lot clean and well maintained
2. All trails are open and clear. The areas of heaviest growth were trimmed last weekend, however, it is obvious that there is more foot traffic this year and that this level of trail usage is helping to keep the grasses in check.
3. New volunteer Patrick McMahon has helped with both trail monitoring and cleanup of some downed trees; thanks also to Mike S and Jim B for their help with those downed trees.
4. With so many Ash trees gone at Brownell, we will need to install 4 - 6 posts to mount trail blazes. Do we have a source for such posts?
5. Because of my travel I have not been able to reach either of the two Falcon Ridge homeowners who might be able to let us use their property to access the area where the new boardwalk is to be built in Brownell. I will try again over Memorial Day weekend.

Falcon Ridge

None

Fox Valley

None

Old Field

Sign replaced.
Kiosk materials to be provided by Town, hoping for June.

JJ Community Trail

Race day was a huge success and well attended. Several Committee members participated.

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Town Park	<p>Kiosk construction is underway, expect completion by playground opening day June 3rd.</p> <p>New water bars added/upgraded on blue trail.</p>
Leon Levy	<p>Sign and post repaired Status of painting over DEP Marking Antique Farm Equipment</p> <p>Mr. Scott's report via email: National Trails Days Hike is Saturday, June 3, 10 am to noon. Hope to see many of you then. Among other features, we'll visit most LLP overlooks, including 2 recently completed.</p> <p>The LLP sign and post is still be worked on as of today, and I would expect should be returned soon.</p> <p>Yesterday Jim B. and I completed covering the NYC DEP bright blue paint on trees that was visible from the trails. Per our agreement with the DEP, we installed small blue disks at their conservation easement boundary corners. I'll return when the leaves are down to assure we have them all. The DEP has been notified.</p> <p>I replaced the updated contact info sheets on all preserve kiosks, except OFP where only one was added, due to no Kiosk. Both the OFP trail map and 1 notice we had there were removed, so there is no accurate trail map at OFP.</p> <p>The antique seed planted has been repaired and returned to its former place alongside the Blue Trail at East Trails @ LLP.</p> <p>Starting June 6, the LLP Trail Crew will be working with the Westchester Land Trust (WLT), building trails at their Mill River Preserve (section west of the Mill River only) and the trail connecting LLP East Trails to the MRP. We expect to finish this summer. The only access to the MRP is from East Trails, with parking in the LLP lot. We'll have a final walk through beforehand with the WLT on May 31.</p>
Onatru	<p>Materials for two new bridges on site, need to coordinate labor</p>