

**Land Stewardship Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**December 16, 2009**  
**Acton Town Hall**

Present: Bettina Abe, Joan Cirillo, Dave Cochrane, Philip Keyes, Peggy Liversidge, Nan Towle Millett, Rich Rhode, Ann Shubert (minute-taker), Jim Snyder-Grant (chair), Tom Tidman  
Guests: Tom Arnold, Heidi Sikina

Meeting minutes: The November minutes were approved.

Possible stewards: Tom Arnold and Heidi Sikina attended the meeting as they are interested in joining the Committee as possible stewards for Nagog Hill Conservation Area or one of the other conservation areas.

Trail news: Philip said that trails often need cutting back after a snowfall. Stewards should walk their parcels with loppers in hand in order to keep the trails cleared.

Nagog Eagle project: Vincent Azzolino will build an 80-foot boardwalk in the spring in the wet area of the Nagog Hill access trail by Hybrid Farm. He will make it half the standard width to allow horses to walk beside it.

Quail Ridge: Philip has marked and adjusted the path between Nagog Conservation Area and Quail Ridge. He said it would be best to cut the trail during the winter when all is frozen as this would have less impact on the wetlands. An Order of Conditions from the Conservation Committee is needed before this is done. Tom said he would write up the application if the owner of Quail Ridge would sign it.

Great Hill: Rick Cushman is interested in watching over the Great Hill Conservation Area. He took pictures of a diseased beech tree there, will keep maps in the map box, and will report blowdowns.

Nashoba Brook: Philip tagged a small trail off the Nashoba Brook trail that includes stone piles and an interesting foundation. The Nashoba Brook trail may benefit from being realigned. Nan and some helpers planted 700 bulbs, mainly daffodils and snowdrops, at the Wheeler Lane entrance to Nashoba Brook. This is part of the TTT (Trail Through Time) project.

Guggins: The beaver deceiver is holding up so that water is draining well, and the six-sided fence is keeping the beavers out.

Camp Acton: Rich said that he will be moving from Acton in May or June so a new steward will be needed for Camp Acton.

Pacy Land: Bob (Guba) and Jim met with Beth and Chris Hickey, who are going to be stewards of the Pacy Land. They have already dealt with a blowdown.

Jenks: Josh Haines is a prospective steward for Jenks.

Main accomplishments of 2009:

1. Construction of two boardwalks at Nagog Hill: one 12 feet in length made by Eastern Mountain Sports employees, and one 40 feet in length made by Brian Chen for his Eagle Scout project.

2. Meadow restoration work at Heath Hen Meadow and Grassy Pond.
3. Creation of trail system at the Pacy.
4. New stewards for the Jenks and Pacy.
5. Installation of beaver deceiver devices in culverts at the Guggins Brook and Jenks.
6. Boardwalk repair at Nashoba Brook and the Arboretum.
7. Kiosk repair at Grassy Pond.
8. Trail treadway hardening at Heath Hen Meadow.
9. Successful launch of elementary school project at the Morrison Farm Community Gardens in collaboration with science teacher Eileen Sullivan (four 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes planted, tended, and harvested garden plots).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.