

Horsepen Run Committee Meeting
September 9, 2015

The HPR AdHoc Committee was called to order at 7:03 P.M.
The meeting was held at the Parkway meeting room, on Wednesday, September 9, 2015.

In Attendance were: Debi Holbrook, Carlos Garcia, Benu Bhargava, Jeff Kretsch, Jen Cochran, Rob Heckman and David Barrie

Absent were: Bill Buchholz, Alliston Gallo, Susan Becelia, and Jess Shoemaker

The Committee unanimously approved the August 19, 2015 minutes.

Resident participation: None

Old business:

Status of the stream buffer and trees.

Jeff reported that 94% of the trees are OK. Jeff will following up on the reimbursement, with Donna and will advise. Discussion on mulching followed. The Committee decided not to do any mulching for the rest of 2015.

Status of the bat houses- No change- update will be reported at the next meeting. Susan to discuss the purchase of poles to install in HPR. For further details and discussion at the next meeting, the exact location of the poles and the effort and additional items necessary to install the poles and bat houses in 2015.

Status of the Eagle project/Mason Bee Houses-

The Committee agreed not to pursue the Mason Bee project as an Eagle Scout activity. There will not be an Eagle project for HPR in 2015.
Jeff will have a meeting with some Scout masters to discuss and advise the Committee about possible Eagle projects for 2016.

Status of the Trail Maintenance Plan.

The Committee voted unanimously to develop a trail maintenance plan. This will be done by Jess and Jeff, by September, 2015. It will provide the details to insure we minimize disturbance of HPR wildlife, identification of vernal pools, and suggest a mix of both high and low maintenance of trails. Update on the trail maintenance plan. Jeff reported this is a work in progress and will advise the Committee at the next meeting. A draft of the Trail Maintenance Plan will be sent out this week, for comments and further discussion at the next meeting. The draft of the Trail Maintenance Plan was sent out via email by Jeff to the Committee. Several emails were exchanged. At the meeting, Jeff made a motion to withdraw the Trail Maintenance Plan and the Maintenance Matrix. The vote was 1 yes 6 no, the motion failed. Debi made a motion to not accept the Trail Maintenance Plan and the Maintenance Matrix. The vote was 6 yes 1 no, the motion passed.

New Business-

Game plan for the invasive species area-

There was a very good discussion on the invasive species area. Several ideas were discussed.

The consensus was that we need a written, detailed game plan that can be reviewed and agreed upon, before we do any activity in this area. Allison and Jess will send this game plan, if possible, prior to the next meeting, since the timeline for activity is limited, for this year.

. No consensus about this area. To be discussed at the next meeting

Use of remaining wood chip pile- We will complete putting wood chips down, at the picnic area, next to the Potomac. The Committee will also send their requests of where we should put wood chips to David. Completed putting wood chips down, on the Bobcat ‘walk-over’ bridge. Welcome more requests/suggestions where to put wood chips down. Some of the wood chips are being used in those areas where we have a “walk over bridge”.

Use of the dirt fill- The Committee will send their requests of where we should put the dirt fill to David. One of the primary area is the sloped area going down to the stream and up the Barred Owl trail. This was done by PMP personnel. New area being worked on to cover with dirt fill is across the stream, heading up the Barred Owl. PMP personnel have completed from the stream up to the signs, where the cross trails meet. PMP projects the completion of this by next week. PMP completed from the stream up to be bend of the Barred Owl in laying down fill dirt. There are two small piles of fill dirt, which may be used in those areas where we have a “walk over bridge”

Purchased of a hedge trimmer- Mike of PMP suggested we buy a Jaw Saw, an extension pole and an extra battery. This purchase was made. The Committee members expressed delighted in using this unit and a possible purchase of a second unit was discussed.

Budget suggestions for 2016. The Committee voted on two 2016 budget suggestions submitted by Jeff. The first was a request for \$3750 for replacement trees. The vote was 2 yes and 6 no. The average of the total votes was a .5. The second request was for \$1,500 for PMP to assist in HPR. The vote was 2 yes and 6 no. The average of the total votes was .625.

Location of the Loudoun Conservation Sign- The Committee decided to have the sign put up on one of the trees in the buffer area.

HPR Care Schedule-The Committee voted 7 Yes and 0 no to accepted this Care Schedule, submitted by Jess.

There was a brief discussion about Hold Harmless, Insurance, Resolution 260 and our ByLaws. The consensus of the Committee was to have a future discussion about these subjects.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

Submitted by: David Barrie