

**Parks Advisory Committee Meeting
Mansfield Town Hall
Mansfield Community Center Conference Room
Wednesday, April 6, 2016
7:00 pm
Acting Chair: Tom Harrington
Minutes**

- I. Welcome
- II. Samuel Dodd Award Ceremony -The Samuel Dodd Award for 2016 was presented to Griffen Worthen for his work in town parks. Griffen built a bridge for Schoolhouse Brook Park at the Indian Trail. Parks Advisory Committee members, town staff and his family recognized him for his good work.
- III. Attendance- Tom Harrington acting chair, Juliana Barret, Bill Thorne. Staff-Jennifer Kaufman
- IV. Approval of Minutes minutes approved unanimously as read.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Sam Dodd Award (see above)
 - B. Bicycling in Town Parks -CFPA allows only foot traffic on their trails. Because it would be difficult to patrol and prohibit biking on Johnsua's Trust and the Nipmuck Trail, it appears that it is not in the best interest to expressly permit biking in parks that connect to these trails until a formal plan. Jennifer has communicated this to the biking community and suggest keeping the dialogue open.
 - C. Storrs Center Open Space- committee reviewed the plan for walking entrance to Whetten Woods Extension. They reviewed the trail notes and approved the plan as presented. Once the construction begins, staff will be monitoring the project to ensure that the trail is at an acceptable grade.
 - D. Events
 - Spring Events
 - Star Party- April 29th Peterson, Thorne
 - Birding with Mom- Mt Hope Park-Sunday, May 8th The Harringtons
 - Wildflowers at Fifty-foot-May 14th. The Harringtons
 - CT Trails Day-Dunhamtown Forest, June 5th The Harringtons
 - NAV Workdays-April 9 &16 Merrow Meadow. 9:45-12:00
- VI. New Business
 - A. Bicentennial Pond Universal Access Trail- The grant for the Universal Access Trail was funded. The grant provides an 80% cash match for the \$316,389.00 project. The town's portion will be funded by an in-kind contributions and funds from the Open Space and Parks Improvement fund.
 - B. Monarch Waystations (www.monarchwatch.org/waystations) Jennifer reported a citizen would like to create a monarch butterfly waystation in the Jonathan Way open space area.
 - C. Meeting Schedule- discussed if there is a better time and day to meet. No decision was made.
- VII. Future Agendas
- VIII. Announcements/Communications
 - A. May Meeting. May meeting will be May 3rd 7:00 PM in town hall conference room
 - B. Amy Patterson of CLCC (CT Land Conservation Council) will discuss " permanent preservation of town land" on April 19th at 7:00PM
- IX. Adjourned at 7:53 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Thorne