

**Rines Property Advisory Committee**  
**Monday, April 17, 2006**  
**7:00 PM Council Chambers**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** John Stroud, Bob Heyner, Henry Milburn, Bob Waterhouse, Jeff Steinman, Bill Richards, Tom Hinman and Bill Shane.

**Absent:** Sally Stockwell, Lisa Judd, Jennifer West, Steve Moriarty, and Jeff Porter.

**Call to Order at 7:00 pm.**

**I. March 20, 2006 - Meeting Minutes Review & Acceptance**

Henry Milburn moved to accept the minutes of the March 20, 2006 meeting. John Stroud seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**II. Matrix Review – Trail Building**

The committee began the discussion by suggesting that certain criteria for the different types of trails on the property be established so that there would not be a “one size fits all” network. They referred to the Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook, which provides examples of different trail design methods.

Bob Heyner felt it was important that the trails were connecting.

Jeff Steinman felt the committee should look at what trails existed and try to connect but wanted to avoid sensitive areas.

John Stroud said they should take the core trail and define it first.

Bill Richards asked if the Town would have a legal obligation to make the trails ADA compliant. This was a concern when the discussion turned to building bridges over wet areas and small streams.

Bill Shane said he would check with the town attorney.

Bob Waterhouse asked the committee if it thought that one of the goals would be to have trails to points of interest. Bob Heyner thought they had agreed to. Jeff Steinman said he did not think the forest should be created into a “park” and felt that the forest should be left in its natural state.

The committee discussed mapping the existing trails with a GPS unit. Bill Shane reminded the committee that this had been attempted and that the canopy was too thick to get credible readings.

There was discussion about the current access/entrance trail. It was suggested that the entrance be more clearly defined so that damage was not done to the surrounding area. Tom Hinman said that if a trail is defined it protects the soil by keeping people from making their own trails.

The committee discussed whether the property line was blazed because if it was not clearly defined there could be issues of crossing over onto the private property of abutters.

There was a consensus that the existing trails should be mapped to determine what trails lead to where and then connections can be determined. The entrance should be cleaned up and made attractive enough so that people will avoid Dales Rines' entrance and the trails need to be defined to direct people were to go.

Jeff Steinman read a list from the June 24, 2004 minutes outlining items generally related to the trails and entrance. It is listed below:

- Light impact trail making – paint or blaze with paint
- Develop and lay out a new footpath to serve as the primary entrance from Range Rd.
- Link or connect the new primary entrance trail to the existing interior trails
- Determine the extent (if any) of any enhancements to the trail system or improvements in the conditions of the existing trails
- Define trail systems and parking policy
- Develop new entrance with trail connector to established trails
- Identify new trails needed to ensure safe & enjoyable public use of the property
- Trail system/initial upgrades completed by end of 2004
- Public entrance to Rines Forest finalized
- Erect kiosk at trailhead with information & map of forest trails
- Achieve adequate access off Range Road
- Minimize unnatural trails
- Trail Connection

The committee planned a site walk to take place on Sunday, April 30, 2006 from 12:00 –2:00 pm.

### **III. Other Business & Future Meetings**

Bob Heyner mentioned that CMIT wanted to have an open house at the Rines Property and asked what the committee felt about the possibility. The committee felt it was too soon and thought that the fall might be better.

- a. The Next Meeting will be held on May 15, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

### **IV. Adjournment**

The Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Stroud  
Executive Secretary