

Minutes of the Milton Frye Nature Area Committee for March 10, 2016

Present: George Clark, Andy Hodgdon, Tracey Kawecki, Phyllis Katz, Lindsay Putnam

Invited guest Andy Hodgdon reported on plans to remove dead apple trees and to replant with relatively large young apple trees to be purchased with generously donated funds. The new trees are to be planted with spacing to facilitate mowing.

Continued periodic mowing of the meadow and orchard will be important for preventing a resurgence of the invasive plants cut in 2015.

To avoid having a few large dead trees around the periphery of the meadow fall into the meadow and impede mowing, those trees have now been taken down, cut up, and delivered to the wood shed for charitable donation.

The committee plans to invite forester Fred Glanzberg to return this summer for help in controlling invasive plants.

Depending on scheduling arrangements yet to be determined, it is hoped to hold a committee-arranged public workshop on apple tree pruning, possibly on the afternoon of March 19. When details become definite, Tracey Kawecki is to send a notice of the event to the town listserve.

Lindsay Putnam now has the donated bags to be provided to the public for collecting dog waste to be placed in the can by the bulletin board. The committee is grateful to Phyllis Katz for her long term efforts in helping to keep the nature area free of dog waste.

It was reported that Nathaniel Perron has been approaching businesses and other organizations for donations to cover the remaining unfunded portion of costs for construction of the educational structure. If current weather trends continue, it may be possible to begin assembly of that structure earlier in the spring than originally anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,
George Clark