

Brooksville Friends and Neighbors Minutes- April 3, 2013

Attendance: Lola Bogyo, Doris Groves, Bob Jones, Joan MacCracken

Discussion of long range project: Walking Nature Trail for all ages including those with walkers and wheelchairs. Update: At the town meeting in March permission was given for the town to pursue walking trails on town owned land. The two acre lot on Young's Point Road has been identified for this purpose.

The goal is to create a walking path through the woods that would be accessible to those on walkers and wheelchairs, giving a location for Brooksville residents and others to be outside in a safe environment. This land is adjacent to over forty acres of Conservation Trust Land which does have shoreline accessibility to the Bagaduce River. At some future time it may be possible to continue the prepared walkway to the water's edge, giving a beautiful and serene spot for many.

Lola checked with the Sedgwick School who put a walking, exercise trail in behind the elementary school. A lot of community volunteers helped but still the cost was significant. Even though we will try to get community volunteers to help clear the dead trees, major equipment and materials will be needed to create the pathway. Thus fundraising will be necessary. We plan to look into possible grants which may exist for trails to be wheel-chair accessible.

Joan has contacted the National Park Service extension program. Due to the sequestration the timing of a site visit has been delayed until June 5th. The NPS helps communities develop trails. We hope to form a local community committee to move forward with this project. We will be looking for volunteers who would like to get involved in the many aspects of such a project. Brooksville has many talented people who might like to assist and give input on its design and construction.

A small group of folks will walk the land with the selectman to mark the acreage prior to the visit of the NPS representative. A list of priorities will be made to proceed.

Joan will get an enlarged map of the land and also names of property owners abutting the land and other nearby neighbors.

Improvement of this town land can add beauty and function for our citizens.

Next meeting....May 1st Town House 6:30pm . All interested parties are invited to attend. Bring your ideas and your energy.

Submitted, Joan MacCracken