

Minutes of Brooksville Friends and Neighbors November 7, 2012

Attending: Edson Blodgett, Sally Blodgett, Anne Ferrara, Lola Bogyo, Jean Webster, Joan MacCracken, Joanne Kimball

1. Discussion re: New idea for a developed pathway in the woods for walking with smooth trail for wheelchairs, walkers, tricycles and small bikes. Lola and Joan went to speak with the selectmen about the idea. They listened and thought it sounded like a good idea and proposed that the town owns 2.5 acres on Young's Point Road that would possibly be just perfect for such a walkway. They indicated that the land was relatively flat. They also suggested that the wood obtained through clearing could be used for wood for needy citizens. They planned to walk and mark the boundaries, so others could know where land was. It is marked as 42C on the map. At the BFN meeting we discussed the idea further. It was suggested that perhaps a playground could be also placed on the land as well as benches. The initial idea was perhaps a circle of eight design to allow some to have a shorter walk and others longer. We need to find skilled volunteers to look at the land for drainage and perhaps find a landscape architect, perhaps Al Abramson or Rob Kimball to help to layout the trail. We discussed known woods trails both in Sedgwick behind the elementary school and in Deer Isle into Lily Pond. We would want the surface to be smooth enough for wheels and elderly walkers. The new project could add a new dimension to the town, which currently has very few safe walking areas. Its closeness to the Maude E. and Eugene Snow Natural Area, a 40 acre parcel with 2550 ft of shorefront, managed by The Conservation Trust of Brooksville, Castine, and Penobscot and accessible on Young's Point Road, would be an asset.

The next step is to have a few people look at the land after it has been marked off by the selectman. Formal surveying is probably not necessary. It was suggested that we find a landscape architect to assist with this. We will return to talk with the selectmen to see what they feel is the next step. Does there have to be official approval from the townspeople for this use? Should it be brought up at the town meeting? There was discussion about potential grants or local funds that may be available. We would want to have some sort of toilet facility, which would need to be wheelchair accessible. A small area along the road would need to be prepared for parking.

Everyone at the meeting felt it was a marvelous project to work on along with the town selectmen. This could be a great addition to Brooksville and give at least three generations of citizens a new, safe place to enjoy. We need to find other folks who would like to join in on this project. Several years ago there were several people who wanted to work on trails in Brooksville. This would be our first project in this area. If interested in helping out, contact Joan MacCracken or Lola Bogyo or your selectmen.

2. Discussion of possible Movie Nights in the winter. Lola discussed the possibility of having winter movies at the townhouse perhaps once a month. She thought it would be a good way to get folks out of their houses and socialize and enjoy a free movie. We discussed what age range the movies would be chosen for. There was some concern that some adults would prefer not to have children or concern about topics which would appeal to families and young and old. We discussed perhaps asking the school to survey the parents to see if they would bring kids to

see a free movie. The idea of a Sunday afternoon was also raised. Lola feels we would need a technical person to run the movie. There is a screen in the large room. Tinder Hearth has a projector. Popcorn might be made available. Several names were given for people computer expertise. Lola will talk with Corinne Pert. Most of the folks felt it was worth a try and see what happened. Supposedly several years ago there were films presented.

3. At Home Downeast update. There is a new program director, Kara Janes, who has recently come on to take Deb Turner's place. She is a social work and very eager to take this on as an exciting project. More publicity will be coming out. She would like to meet with the folks who are signed up to be volunteers. AHD knows that many volunteers have not yet been asked to give any service, but that does not imply those volunteers are not valued. There are currently 36 members and over 60 volunteers in the towns of Castine, Brooksville, Sedgwick, Penobscot, and Brooklin. Blue Hill is currently the focus for recruiting members and volunteers. Look for an announcement for a volunteers meeting to meet the new director and discuss better ways to utilize the volunteers.

Next Meeting is December 5th, 2012

Respectfully, Joan MacCracken