

Pembroke Conservation Commission
Minutes of June 3, 2007
White Sands Clean Up

Attendance: Jeff Abbe (CC alternate), David Baril (CC alternate), Kevin Gagne, Ammy Heiser, Stetson Heiser

Public: David and Alice Fahey (letterboxers from Wilmington, Ma.) and Sarah Baril

We gathered at the entrance to White Sands at 9:00am and started right in on cleaning up the immediate area. At that time there were 4 of us present, Jeff, Kevin, Stetson and Ammy. After cleaning up that area we headed along the eastern boundary abutting the back of the lots on Nadine Drive to conduct our annual monitoring of the property. There are pins on each abutter's lot corners as well as surveyor's tape on many trees along our boundaries. The corners are marked with triple tape. We checked the encroachment at 420 Nadine Dr. and noted that the invisible dog fencing, wire fencing and garden have been removed. The encroachment at 428 Nadine Drive has also been rectified and the owners are no longer mowing the area on the White Sands property. We collected garbage as we walked. There were no other significant changes to the property since our last monitoring. We walked down to the beach and parking area and continued to collect garbage and recyclables. At the Northern boundary with the Merrimack River, the sign was missing. We found it further down the beach with a bent post. Stetson will replace the post and return it to its proper location. We replaced the sign at the beginning of the beach parking lot, which had been defaced.

At this point David and his wife, Sarah and David and Alice Fahey, joined us. With their tenacity and enthusiasm we collected 2 air conditioners and excavated 7 tires, a lounge chair and other large items out of Meetinghouse Brook at the steepest part of the embankment. David B and David F worked hard to remove a half submerged washing machine from the sand in the middle of the brook. We didn't have the proper equipment to finish the job. David Baril is committed to its removal and will return with a winch and truck to accomplish this task. Our sincere thanks go to all of their efforts. David and Alice Fahey are not residents yet took their weekend to help with our clean up.

It is also worth noting that there is a sinkhole at the stone arch bridge that is of concern because of the potential liability. This is another reason why it is imperative that we gate the road against vehicular traffic as was decided on at the May 9th site walk. We also noticed a dead immature great horned owl on the side of the road as we were walking out. In all, we collected approximately 12 bags of garbage and recyclables, 2 air conditioners, 1 lounge chair, vinyl siding, metal roofing, wood from a road barricade, and a washing machine. The beach and parking area had the most garbage and the woods immediately surrounding it. Kevin contacted the Highway Department and arranged for them to pick up the garbage at the beach parking area.

The meeting was never formally adjourned since we all arrived and left at different times. Stetson and I left at noon while David Baril, Sarah, and David and Alice remained.

Respectfully submitted by Ammy Heiser, CC Chair

