

Trails Committee Minutes June Summary 2016

Anne submitted a written report complete with pictures, a great effort. From Anne's written report a big thanks goes to Margie and Tim who aggressively attacked the thistle problem. Litter seems to be confined to a couple of regular places on the trail, by the Recycling Area and around the coffee house.

The monthly maintenance list is as follows:

Graeme, July: ?, August: Allan, September: ?, October.

Our recent trail clearing was on the Wren Road trail. It was very heavily grown in with broom in places and needed cutting back or pulling up. With a crew of 6-keen Trials people we were able to clear the trail.

Several of us attended the meeting with the CVRD people, Doug Demarzo and Daniel May. Prior to the meeting Doug and Dan had cycled the Cross Island Trail and Dan mentioned the tall grasses by the side of the trail and the many places grass was growing on the trail. We discussed ways to deal with grass on and along the trail. Doug and Dan suggested contracting someone to cut the grass by the side of the trail.

Suggestions were made about hiring students to work on the pulling the grass and Anne suggested the the Garden Club may wish to help out. We set-up a tentative date, either the 5th or 12th July to organize a work party; Dan would come over to help us get organized. Budgets were discussed and it seems there is about \$200,000.00 available for the trail in total, half of that Gas Tax money. Doug agreed to meet again with us to explain the CVRD Parks and Greenways budget; this is available on their web site but can be confusing.

Allan reported to the Committee that Laura has decided to leave our Committee but will still work with us as chair of the Parks Committee.

We learned that Karin Albert will be leaving her position at CVRD Parks and will take up a new position working for Strathcona Parks.

OLD BUSINESS:

It was re-affirmed that building a switchback trail to replace the direct route on the bluff area above Betty's Beach is something we need to work on. By the fall we hope a new route will be flagged and the availability of downed trees to form part of the switchback trail needs to be noted.

NEW BUSINESS.

Our next trail clearing venture will be in Boyle Point Park. It was agreed to improve the Main Trail in places to allow the 6x6 to cover more of the trail and get us to the Old Bike Jump Trail where we need to cut back the salal, cut away a couple of fallen trees and improve a section of the trail where it is quite steep.

Trail clearing date: ***Tuesday, 12th July at 9.30-am, meet at the Main trailhead near the Tree in the Road.***

The hike will take place in Denman Island Park where we will explore an overgrown trail and complete a circular route in the Park.

Date: ***Saturday, 23rd July, meet at the top of Wren Road at 9.30-am.***

We also discussed erecting signage in both Provincial Parks; these signs cannot be permanent because they will not be to Parks standards..

Our next meeting is: **Tuesday, 26th July, 2016 at the Fire-hall at 7.30 pm.**

