

Coventry Conservation Commission

Special Meeting Minutes

Millbrook Greenway Public Forum

Town Hall Annex - 7pm - February 20, 2014

The forum was called to order at 7:00 pm

Eric Trott, Director of Planning and Development, provided a history of the Millbrook Greenway and the purpose of the forum.

Leroy Lowe, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, introduced himself and other members of the Commission.

Michael Antonellis, Zoning Enforcement Officer/Planning Tech, reviewed the mapping that the Land Use Office prepared to demonstrate some concepts with the continuation of the Millbrook Greenway.

During the public comment portion of the meeting the following concerns were raised:

- The trail will disturb current features that the public already enjoys
- How can the trail be constructed as to avoid accidental trespass onto private land which may have private trails adjacent to the proposed Millbrook trail?
- The trail proposes to go into floodplain and wetlands, is this necessary and won't it adversely affect those wetlands? Is it necessary to "disturb" the wetlands?
- A property along Armstrong Road has Horses that are used on both sides of the Millbrook currently. Is it prudent to invite pedestrians near an area where horses are?
- The south side of the Millbrook in a particular area is very wet and likely impassible. can there be an alternative route proposal?
- The Millbrook can be viewed from Snake Hill Road and other Town Right of Ways. Why bother creating a trail at all? Can't the public view the Millbrook at their leisure from existing viewpoints?
- How will parking be handled for residents and visitors who may want to drive to the trail locations?
- How will the town preserve existing features, such as stonewalls?
- Are homeowners liable for injuries that may occur on their land as a result of the trail?
- How will homeowner's pets who live & play in backyards be affected by the trail?
- How will the likelihood of spreading of invasive species be handled through creation of the trail?
- How will the process proceed after the meeting? Is there a time table associated with the project?

General Comments

A gentleman spoke in favor of the trails stating that he used to travel on many Coventry trails as a kid and feels they are an asset to the town.

There are no good places to walk on Bradbury Lane or Snake Hill Road.

Town Staff attempted to answer the questions and respond to the comments that were raised. The ideas shared during the forum will allow the Town Staff to revise plans for the Millbrook Greenway accordingly.

The forum was adjourned at approximately 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Antonellis

Zoning Enforcement Officer/Planning Tech

Eric M. Trott

Director of Planning and Development