



Town of Seymour
Beautification Commission (SBC)

Thursday, March 19, 2026 7:00 PM

Regular Meeting Minutes

Christopher Willis Conference Room
20 Pine Street 2nd Floor, Seymour, CT 06483

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 4/2/26
TIME: 3:07 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: Chairman Stuart Brannen; Vice-Chair Nancy Chucta; Secretary Jeff Baryla; Zachary Succow; JoElle Anderson
Others: Mike Marganski, Seymour ZEO
Members Absent: None

1. Call to Order

Chairman Stuart Brannen called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

All present stood, saluted the flag, and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was established.

3. Public Comment

None present. The commission also received no written request for comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. February 19, 2025

Motion by N. Chucta to approve the Feb 19, 2025 regular meeting minutes, as presented. Seconded by S. Brannen. There was no discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Reports & Correspondence

A. Monthly Trail Manager's Report

All commissioners reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.

B. Emails/Letters to Commission

The commission received no communication or letters of correspondence.

6. Old Business

A. Update on Collaboration with Seymour Land Trust

The next event in our collaborative education series will be "Invasive Species" on Saturday Mar 28 at 11 AM in the Henry Hamel Environmental Building (HHEB). Trail Manager will present along with certified arborist and fellow woodland manager Maria Schreiner, who is one of the rangers at Ansonia Nature Center.

The board proposed hosting a cleanup event of 338 Roosevelt Drive for Saturday, April 11. This is Seymour Land Trust property adjacent to Keith Mitchell Forest. Baryla will

contact Frank at Seymour Public Works to arrange for a bulk waste pickup Mon April 13.

The commission engaged in open discussion to propose future dates for the educational event series with the Land Trust. The board collectively agreed on the following:

Saturday May 30 at Seymour Public Library
Friday June 26 at HHEB/Legion Pool
Friday August 14 at HHEB/Legion Pool
Saturday Sept 26 at HHEB/Legion Pool
Saturday Nov 7 at HHEB/Legion Pool*
Saturday Dec 5 at HHEB/Legion Pool*

Baryla will send these dates to Land Trust President Alex Danka for confirmation and/or amendment. Approved dates will be finalized at this board's April 23 meeting.

* The Nov and Dec events can be moved and/or converted to indoor-only, if necessary.

Z. Succow left the meeting at 8:02 PM.

7. New Business

A. Approval of Upcoming Event Schedule

Baryla suggested planning work parties with locations left open for whatever needs immediate attention. In other words, if a work party needs to be canceled, the next one will be at that same location. This will help tasks get completed, rather than push them off to another month. The board agreed and proposed the following dates/events:

Sat Mar 21	Sat Mar 28 at SLT	Sat Apr 4 at PPG	Sat Apr 11 at KMF
CLCC Conference	"Invasive Species"		Cleanup Event
Sat Apr 18 at LL	Sat Apr 25 at LL	Sat May 2 Work Party	Sat May 9 Work Party
Prep/Inspect Trail	Annual Earth Day Hike		
Sat May 16 at GP?	Sat May 30 w/ SLT?	Sat Jun 13 Work Party	Sat Jun 20 Work Party
Cutting Knotweed	Library Event		

Motion by N. Chucta to approve the Upcoming Event Schedule as presented.

Seconded by J. Anderson. There was no further discussion. Motion carried 4-0.

8. Adjournment

Motion by J. Anderson. Seconded by N. Chucta.

All in favor (4-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Baryla

Secretary/Trail Manager

Seymour Beautification Commission will next meet on Thurs Apr 23 at 7:00 PM.

Town of Seymour
DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE & CODE COMPLIANCE
20 Pine Street 2nd Floor, Seymour, CT 06483
Monthly Trails Report for March 19, 2026

Keith Mitchell Forest [KMF]

Feb 28 Work Party canceled due to heavy snowfall earlier in the week. I plan to visit this site on Friday Mar 27 to pull border privet and assess a minor reroute of the Falls Trail. The first (spring) clean-up of the adjacent Seymour Land Trust Parcel [338 Roosevelt] will take place on April 11. Future work parties will address the issues that ERT outlined in their summary report.

Paramount (pollinator garden) [PPG]

March 7 Work Party canceled. Rapidly rising temps caused fast snowmelt & muddy conditions. I visited the site on Wed Mar 18 to manage invasives. Next Work Party scheduled for Sat April 4.

Little Laurel Lime Ridge Park [LL]

Work Party to be held here on April 18 to address all entry points, inspect vernal pools, and check trail conditions prior to our Annual Earth Day Hike on April 25.

Gary Park (18 Osprey) [GP]

Work Parties will focus on managing knotweed here in May, July, and September. First cut to take place late May (16th or 30th). Any Work Party Jun or Aug will be for restoration of the woods trail.

Fountain Lake North/South [FLN/FLS]

I would like to restore the original Davis Road trailhead at some point this year, if time allows.

Seymour Land Trust [SLT]

"Invasive Species" event on Mar 28 at 11 AM at the Henry Hamel Building. Guest presenter will be Ranger Maria Schreiner of the Ansonia Nature Center. This activity will be indoor/outdoor.

Other

- My recommendations and BMPs for 24 Chucta, 2 Butternut, and 338 Roosevelt will be consolidated into one report which I will forward this to Alex Danko when complete.
- Commissioners have still not gotten back to me on visiting the Dog Park. I would very much like feedback and suggestions on rainbow bridge details prior to drafting initial plans this spring.
- The 2026 CLCC Conference is Sat Mar 21. Nancy Chucta and I will be attending.

Upcoming event schedule, as approved by the Seymour Beautification (Trails) Commission:

Sat Mar 21	Sat Mar 28 at SLT	Sat Apr 4 at PPG	Sat Apr 11 at KMF
CLCC Conference	"Invasive Species"		Cleanup Event
Sat Apr 18 at LL	Sat Apr 25 LL	Sat May 2 Work Party	Sat May 9 Work Party
Prep/Inspect Trail	Annual Earth Day Hike		
Sat May 16 GP?	Sat May 30 SLT	Sat Jun 13 Work Party	Sat Jun 20 Work Party
	Seymour Library?		

All planned Work Party locations after May 2026 will be based on priority, with dates being fluid. This will allow for simple re-scheduling in the event of bad weather to complete tasks sooner.

Thank you!

Jeff Barysa
Trail Manager, Seymour Beautification Commission