

Minutes of Parks and Recreation Zoom meeting
Date: 1/7/21

Meeting commenced at 6:44

Attending: Ted Danforth, Robert Abbott, Anne Lang, Steven Palmer, Rosemary Roy

Minutes of December approved by a 5-0 vote. Motion by Steven, second by Anne.

New business

Budget:

- There will be \$10,000 available in 2022 budget for invasives work, \$5K from general maintenance and \$5K from reserves.
- The reserve spreadsheet remained unchanged

Yarmouth Water District newly acquired property on Sweetser Road:

- Parks and Recreation will, at some point, contact the new Superintendent of the Water District to begin a dialogue with Parks and Recreation. The discussion would be to offer assistance in planning and implementing recreational opportunities for the property.
- This will be further discussed at a future meeting

Old Business

Chandler Brook North Field:

- It was agreed to spend up to \$500 for milkweed plugs and seeds. Ted will organize publicity around the "community planting event", preliminarily scheduled for late April to mid-May. Steve to take care of the purchase of milkweed plants and seeds.
- The 2022 budget includes money for birdhouses and interpretive signage for the North Field, Ted offered his help to make this happen.
- Steve made a request to help blaze the proposed North Field Loop trail.

Sam Ristich/Railroad Property Ownership:

- Scott presented what he has learned in his effort to unravel the ownership of the railroad bed and where Theona Lagasse's property boundaries are. Much more investigative work needs to take place before any surveyor can become involved. Scott's findings presented a most befuddling scenario of property ownership. Rosemary did say she was working on this as well.
- Baston Park was discussed and it was agreed that the town does have ownership of that property. Thanks to Scott for the research done on this property.

Hayes Town Forest:

- Bob reported on how pleased he was with the work PW completed on the parking lot. No further work has been done on the proposed trail system.
- It was clarified that the committee would not be seeking control of the glossy buckthorn in the EHTF, at least at this time or the foreseeable future. Scott added information in his conversation with Paul Larrivee on a technique to control glossy buckthorn.

Invasives Planning:

- The committee agreed it would not commit to paying for invasives works at the Veteran's Memorial Park. It was agreed that Scott will make contact with the Veteran's group to encourage the Veterans to contact Basswood Environmental should the group be interested in pursuing eradication of the invasives. Bob did send an email contact to Eric Robinson but had not heard back.

- Committee members were asked to review their preferences on invasive control for this budget cycle. A reminder: money will be pulled from the reserves. Communicate preferences with Bob so he can prepare a proposal to Basswood Environmental for approval at the February meeting.

Park Trail Monitoring:

- Deferred to the next meeting

Living Well Surveys:

- Steve provided a brief summary of the results of the 2017 LW survey. He also addressed the new survey about recreational opportunities, desires and interests within our community. The survey was sent with a self addressed stamped envelope. Committee members Anne and Steve provided input on behalf of the P&R committee. Rosemary was influential in broadening the scope of the survey.

Round Robin:

- Ted sent a link to members for the NEEF grant. Grant money can be accepted without there being seed money in the budget.
- Steve made a plea to wrap up the Chandler Brook Management Plan. Rosemary has drop box info she will send to the committee. Bob expressed his strong desire to see this completed within a month.

Next Meeting February 4th by Zoom

Meeting Adjourned: 8:16