11/16/17

CEO office- committee members present: Ken Filliter, Scott Kerr, Bryan Emerson, Jim Faunce. Absent: Anne Lang

Also present – Steve Palmer

* Moonlight snow shoe discussion with Steve.
  + Anne proposed Wednesday, 1/31 as a full moon/blue moon date.
  + Suggested getting Events Committee involved. Ask Anne if she’d like to reach out to Jason Raven.
  + Steve suggested Living Well could help support event, i.e. Posters, PR.
* Chandler Brook Steward
  + Michelle Harkins of White Birch Farm volunteered to help maintain Chandler Brook and agreed that we wouldn’t want to encourage equestrian activity when trails are vulnerable/wet. She also suggested contacting Ken Fowler to address blowdowns/pinned trees. She is the new park steward.
* Town Forest-Scott
  + 45 acre piece between water district and finest kind.
    - Paul Larrivee, from SAPI, licensed forester
    - Blowdowns need to be salvaged soon or they’ll be undesirable/unusable soon. Also could impede trail traffic and create desirable habitat for invasives.
    - 10-15% salvage cut/trail cut off skidder trails. Might result in $3-4k
  + Oak hill, 25 acres
    - Without interfering with sam ristich trail, due for 20% maintenance cut, approximately $200-300/acre, $4K-7K total yield
    - To clean up big parcel, likely need to commit to the second to make it worth forester’s while
    - Would have opportunity to review planned cuts and include buffers.
    - Will meet with us multiple times to ensure we are on the same page.
  + Ken will find out from Rosemary if we have authority to make cut. If not, bring it to the board.
  + Proceeds should stay in Parks’ budget.
* 100 Year Plan discussion
  + How active/passive should our management be?
    - Everyone agreed being active should be the goal
    - Scott suggested adding MTN Bike trails to oak hill town forest parcel
  + Ken volunteers to update 100 year plan/scale back to 5-10 year plan
    - Scott moves to proceed
    - Bryan seconds
    - Unanimous
  + Debbie Perkins, wildlife biologist. $375 minimum consultation, including 2 hour sit down with us.
    - Scott suggested we ask Paul Larrivee to evaluate OTH and Chandler Brook as well to get his insight first, then bring in Debbie if needed.
* Fence replacement at Wescustogo
  + Suggested to look into replacing rotten posts as opposed to entire fence. Full replacement was $4k.
* Other
  + Fence came down around trash at OTH – Boy scouts cleaned up
  + Easement at Boat Launch moving forward
  + Rocks dropped off at Wescustogo for placement
  + Kiosk blew over at OTH. Clark will repair.
  + Route 9 parcels (between brook and route 9, Mrs. Day’s estate)– probably not much we can act on at this point due to high costs (land/potential bridge) and impractical uses
    - say that State and Town ordinances prohibit development that would have a visual impact from the CBP and the high banks would keep anyone on the brook or in CBP from being able to see much that might happen on the land.
  + Discussed possibility of sledding hills. Maybe getting hay bales at OTH