

October 1, 2015

Present:

Garry Hinkley, Annie Reiter, Jeffrey Janell, Shenna Bellows, Fred Snow

Guests: Rosemary Presnar, Sarah Shed

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm.

- I. Conversation with Hallowell Conservation Commission members:
 - a. Discussed need for an operating agreement with Healthy Communities.
 - b. Discussed administration
 - i. Together, the commissions will do an RFP for trail consultant
 - c. Discussed role of consultant:
 - i. Identify landowners
 - ii. Inventory known trails
 - iii. Identify appropriate trail use (multiuse vs. single use) & system for appropriate improvements & signage
 - iv. Identify any trails that should be retired for environmental reasons
 - v. Identify potential new connections
 - vi. Incorporate general survey of invasive species to identify future opportunities or challenges
 - d. Agreed that we would welcome a Conservation Corps volunteer. May to November: \$11,700
 - e. Discussed Budget for \$20,000: \$12,000 for Conservation Corps, \$8,000 for consultant.
 - f. Discussed scope – map the corridor from Town Farm Road to Pond Road that connects the Reservoir, Town Forest and exit, give us connectivity options to Jamie's Pond and the two town centers.
 - g. Future goal for additional funds: Inventory and combat invasive species
 - h. Expected outcome: report of existing trails & suggestions for new connections, appropriate use, signage.
 - i. Discussed Recreational Trails Program grant from the DoT which will pay for Conservation Corps program and for actual trail building work.
 - j. Discussed coordination: agreed that we should have a subcommittee to coordinate the work of the two groups.
 - k. Discussed community outreach at an appropriate time.
 - l. Discussed and agreed to approach Davis Foundation.
 - m. Discussed Stevens School Property.

- II. Allen Whitney Trails Update: With equipment on loan from Deb, Garry went out and did a significant amount of bushwhacking to improve the

trails but needs a heavier-duty tool, a weed-whacker with blades, to improve the section he was thinking about. Also hopes to do work with a chainsaw to help with trees that have fallen across the trail.

- III. Pesticides Update: Fred shared a substantial amount of materials. We agreed to discuss next steps at the November meeting. We reviewed Ogunquit's ordinance prohibiting pesticide use on town-owned land. We discussed some modifications to language. A revised draft will be circulated by Fred before the next meeting. Fred will contact Ogunquit about the issue of sludge and whether or not those who apply pesticides need to be licensed. Shenna will read the national statutes to double check the references. Garry will revise the Lawn Care 101 document for public distribution. We discussed next steps and agreed we should consult with the Recreation Committee.
- IV. Fred has commenced research on solar farms.
- V. New members: Garry is still looking. Our two candidates are not yet interested.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.