

Finalized Minutes

St. George Conservation Commission for Thursday January 11, 2018

Attendance: Joss Coggeshall, Dan Verrillo, Ken Oelberger, Ingrid Mroz, Ryan LeShane, Tom Gorrill, Brent West (GRLT), John Knuerr, Tammy Willey, Terry Bracket, Dianne Oelberger and Amanda Devine (MCHT) (on phone).

Announcements: A minute of silence was given in memory of Les Hyde who recently died. He was a greatly valued environmentalist and friend to all of us.

The follow up talk on Clamming by B. Beal postponed from December is tonight in Thomaston

Modifications to Agenda: Honoring Les and adding Tom Gorrill to CC.

Minutes: Motion to approve December minutes as modified made by Ingrid. Seconded by Joss. Approved unanimously.

Old Business

Footpaths: (Ingrid/Ryan)

- Ingrid identified several important changes to the Town website to make trails and preserves easier to learn about.
- Brent informed the CC that GRLT is sponsoring a shoreline cleanup possibly in the Clark Island/Wheeler Bay area.
- High Island: Tree fallen near kiosk needs to be removed
- Volunteer safety: Brent offered their chain-saw safety program to any trail steward volunteer.

Land Trust Coordination: (Ken)

- Meadowbrook: Management plan due March 1st. MCHT will submit to MNRCP. Joss and Ingrid will assist in completing a schedule of tasks necessary to meet the deadline. A stakeholder's meeting was identified as an important task and stakeholder's to contact were identified.

Town Solar: (Dan/Joss)

- A Town notice was sent stating that the solar electric system installation will be completed by the end of this month by ReVision Energy.
- Dan will help to organize a "celebration" (at no expense to the Town) when the system is running.

Education Committee: (Suzanne) Not here. Nothing new.

Invasives: (Ingrid) Ingrid has agreed to take the lead in future projects.

Steam Restoration: (Ryan/Joss/Dan)

- Fish ladder: Still waiting on design and costs.

- Landscaping: Ann Cox (Hedgerow) has agreed to help with a design and cost estimate.
- Amanda and Terry can help with permit applications for any alteration of the stream and banks called for by any of the designs.

Comprehensive Plan: (Ken) CC recommended changes were submitted to Comprehensive Planning Committee. We are waiting for further sections to review.

New Business

Budget for FY 18-19: (Ken)

- Ken received an estimate of \$8000 for a parking lot at Meadowbrook. We will also pursue grants to subsidize the cost to the town.
- **Motion** to approve the CC requested budget of \$13,350 as amended (Ken). Seconded by Ingrid. Approved unanimously.
- Discussed recommending that the Town make a contribution to the Clark Island acquisition by MCHT and that it be put on the warrant for town vote. After discussing several alternatives a motion was made to recommend a \$100,000 contribution via a 10 year bond. **Motion** by Ken, seconded by Joss. Approved unanimously.

Les Hyde Memorial: (Ken) Ideas:

- Dedicated bench on High Island. The purchase of the island was important to Les.
- Dedicated bench near School nature trail. Another long term project by Les and a very visible location.
- Dedicated trail. School nature trail is a possibility.
- Dedicate the Town Report to Les this year.
- Ken will discuss options with Ann when she is ready.

New Member: Motion by Dan to recommend Tom Gorrill to the Select Board as a full CC member to fill the remainder of Les Hyde's term. Seconded by Joss. Approved unanimously.

Town Report: Sections of the report were assigned, Ken will compile for review at the February meeting.

Select Board Update: (Tammy) Working on budget.

Planning Board Update: (Terry) "Workshop" on proposed Cable Landings ordinance in response to Aqua Ventus is scheduled for January 18th.

Motion to adjourn by Joss. Seconded by Ingrid. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Verrillo