

Finalized Minutes

St. George Conservation Commission for Thursday April 4, 2019

Attendance: Members: Joss Coggeshall, Dan Verrillo, Ken Oelberger, Ingrid Mroz, Tom Gorrill, Ryan LeShane and Suzanne Hall (on phone); Also: John McIlwain, Anita Siegenthaler (FoSG), John Mayer, and Annette Naegel (Director of Conservation, GRLT).

Announcements:

- MEACC April 27th meeting. Notify Ken if want to attend.
- Restoration of “Net Metering” bill signed.
- Town meeting to get feedback on the Town’s website to be held sometime this month (watch for announcement).

Modifications to Agenda: None

Minutes: Motion by Tom to approve March minutes. Seconded by Joss. Approved unanimously.

Old Business

Invasives: (Ingrid/Ryan)

- Ryan and Amanda, who are leading the presentation/tour at Blueberry Cove on June 8th, met in April to finalize plans. Presentation will focus on identifying and removal techniques for invasives found on site. Preregistered participants will receive instructions on preparing cuttings for identification after the presentation.
- Dale Pierson Nursery and Plants Unlimited will participate but still needs to be worked out more fully.
- Presentation starts promptly at 10 am but there is no set ending time to allow time to identify cuttings.
- Article will be in the Dragon’s April issue. Notices will be placed in Town Newsletter and FoSG emails.

Footpaths: (Tom)

- Trail cleanup rescheduled to 9 am Sunday the 28th with a rain day on May 5th. Ken will put announcement on Town website.
- Mat’s Excavation will build a 3 space parking lot at the Meadow Brook property for \$6900. Clearing by volunteers will be scheduled.
- Commission members and volunteers will construct a kiosk at Blueberry Cove shop for Meadow Brook with material from Spears costing about \$700.
- High Island cleanup is scheduled for May 7th. This includes clearing downed trees and shore trash cleanup.

Land Trust Coordination: (Ken/Annette).

- GRLT now holds the conservation easement for the Town's Meadow Brook property. This will preserve public access and ensure wildlife protection. The management plan is complete and provided to GRLT.
- Volunteers will check for boundary marker pins and clearly identify and maintain.
- Annette pointed out that the Meadow Brook property is a very valuable to mitigate the effects of sea level rise. "Climate Maps" will be available in the future to identify the value of this and other marsh areas.

Steam Restoration: (Joss/Dan).

- Alison and her class will conduct monitoring of the marsh (pH, salinity, temp, algae) and are excited about plans for a small fish ladder.
- On April 8th at 6pm there will be a lecture by Nate Gray on alewife restoration at Flatbread restaurant. Sponsored by Trouts Unlimited.

Climate Change: (Ingrid/John M.)

- Single Use Plastic Bags: Motion made by Ingrid to support the Solid Waste Committee's proposal to ban single use plastic bags and Styrofoam containers in the Town of St. George. Seconded by Joss. Approved unanimously.
- Community Solar: School is looking into the feasibility of solar panels.

Education Committee: (Suzanne)

- See Invasives
- Brian Beal will not be returning this year to lecture for various reasons.

New Business

Resource Maps: (Dan)

- Ad hoc committee met on March 7th and April 4th to identify any updates to the maps. The committee will work with Brent West (GRLT) to make all the changes.
- Annette will also touch base with Brent to work on a "Climate Map" for us.

Newsletter May/June: (Ken) April 15th deadline. Ingrid: Invasives Presentation, Tom: Meadowbrook update and call for trail stewards.

Select Board Update: (Tammy) Not here.

Planning Board Update: (Terry) Not here.

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

Respectfully submitted by Dan Verrillo