

Finalized Minutes

St. George Conservation Commission for Thursday September 2, 2021

Attendance: Members: Ken Oelberger, Dale Pierson, John Knuerr, John Meyer and (Via Zoom) Dan Verrillo, and Tom Gorrill; Also: Joss Coggeshall, and Anita Siegenthaler.

Public Comment: (Joss)

- Thought CC get-together at Fort Point was a great idea.
- Ash trees are only 4% of the trees in Maine but are important to protect. Many uses. Protection from Ash borer is working.
- Fort Point meadow should be maintained. Tom and Amanda believe that mowing once a year in the late Fall should continue.

Announcements: (Ken)

- Email from Joel Balano-Stott (Monmouth, ME CC Chair). Complimented us on our achievements especially the Fort Point project. Ken sent response.

Modifications to Agenda: None.

Minutes: Motion by Tom to approve last month's minutes. Seconded by John M. Unanimously approved.

Old Business

Footpaths: (Tom/Ken)

- Work Trips: None last month. Next trip planned for stepping stones at Meadow Brook. Tom asked Dale if he can get a backhoe to improve drainage and install a culvert at Meadow Brook parking lot.
- Will install signs for hunting season next month. Tom will contact GRLT for some replacements.
- Fort Point:
 1. Public meeting held on August 19th. Attended both in person and by zoom and had good feedback.
 2. Fund raising close to \$5k pledges. Need a total of \$6k minimum. Extra will be better for grant point scoring.
 3. Survey crew installed boundary stakes and some boundary pins. The remaining pins will be installed once the deed is completed.
 4. Use Permit received.
 5. Deed with abutters. Meeting on Sept, 13th with SB scheduled.
 6. Phone call planned with MCC next week to determine their participation.
 7. Amanda Devine will survey the area for rare plants to show that no endangered species will be impacted.
 8. Costs for permitting effort by Gartley and Dorsky will be updated.
 9. Another subcommittee meeting is needed to finish remaining issues.

Land Trust Coordination: (Ken).

- MCHT Clark Island: Amanda informal trail walk late September. May need CC help.
- GRLT: August 27th surrounding towns CC outing at Fort Point was successful in improving communication among the groups.

Education: See Invasives**Invasives (John K.)**

- Correction made to date of Invasives walk on Clark Island to September 9th.

Website Update (John M.)

- Added “Useful Sea Level Rise Maps” to SLR section. [Click here](#)
- Fort Point Trail Project added. [Click here](#)

Climate Change: (Dan)**Sea Level Rise:**

- Island Institute fund raiser on August 12th at the East Wind Inn. Richard Bates agreed to be on a panel and answered questions about Town actions on SLR so far.
- Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) has not scheduled another meeting as yet but they have contacted Richard for a one-on-one interview about the Coastal Resiliency Informed by Science and Experience Program (C-RISE). [Click here](#) for more information about C-RISE.
- Richard is reaching out to C-Rise by giving examples of the Town’s road vulnerabilities
- American Rescue Fund: The Town was assigned \$274k for climate change projects. Richard would like to halve the Town’s carbon footprint by 2030 and needs CC input. I sent him some ideas.

Solar:

Mike Felton is continuing the efforts to subscribe to a solar farm for the School. ReVision offered a 15% discount over CMP’s rate but required a 20 year PPA with no cancellation. The school is on a waiting list with NexAmp, which offered a 10% discount and a two month cancellation on their 20 year PPA.

New Business**Associate Members (Ken)**

- Adding the category of Associate member of the CC will allow more involvement and diversity from the community. May or may not require an amendment to the Town charter. This will be discussed at a future Select Board meeting

Select Board Update: (Tammy) Not here**Planning Board Update: (Terry) Not here.**

Motion by Dale to adjourn meeting. Seconded by John M. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Verrillo