

Finalized Minutes

St. George Conservation Commission Minutes for Thursday May 5, 2022

Attendance: Members: Dan Verrillo, Ken Oelberger, John Meyer, John Knuerr and Ryan LeShane; Associate Members: Ingrid Mroz and Dick Pelletier; Also: Terry Brackett (CEO).

Public Comment: None.

Announcements & Communications:

- Tom Gorrill has stepped down as a full member of the CC. He has recently been elected president of the Maine Appalachian Trail Club which is taking much of his time. He would still like continue to participate in the CC as an Associate Member. John M. has agreed to assume Tom's trail duties. We all thank Tom for all his hard work and congratulate him on his new position.

Modifications to Agenda: None.

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

Old Business

Fort Point Project: (Ken)

- Have received \$8.7k of about \$11k donations pledged. Ingrid suggested adding to newsletter to encourage other pledged donations.
- Erin of Town 4 Trails completed design update.
- Specs and RFPs for bridge and trails nearly ready to submit to State for approval.
- Dale talking with abutter for right-of-way for construction access.

Trails: (John M.)

- Fort Point remains closed due to wet conditions.
- Work Trips: Next work trip will be the Les Hyde trail on the 21st. Will check with Becky (Library/School) on availability of school parents to help. Ryan will work with John to coordinate materials. Town Forest is next depending on materials. Ken will get quote.
- Meadow Brook Parking Lot: Leveled surface, spread 12 yds of crushed stone and installed drainage ditch.
- Jones Brook: Portion closed for logging by owner. Signs posted. Question raised if permit required to log in the Resource Protection zone near the brook. Will start posting trail status on St. George Message Board (Facebook). Ryan will handle.

Land Trust Coordination: (Ken/Amanda).

- MCHT: Waiting on Amanda's response to our suggestions on the Management Plans and survey.

- GRLT: Executive Director, Meg Rasmussen, resigned and the three codirectors will assume her responsibilities.

Invasives (John K.) See below

Events & Education: (John K.)

- Workshop scheduled for 9 AM on June 18th (rain day on 25th) on Clark Island. Draft presentation ready.
- Parking in the morning will not interfere with other events. Van will be available (Ryan).
- Dale will bring examples of invasives and offer free native species.
- Registration probably through Amanda rather than CC.
- Will advertise on Free Press and Facebook (St. George Message Board).

Website Update (John M.)

- Updated trail notices.

Climate Change: (Dan)

Sea Level Rise

- Ken, Richard and Dan will meet with Leticia vanVuure (Knox Co. EMA) on May 19th. Will review updated SLR interactive map. The current CC page link will work with the update.

Solar

- In the News: Two solar projects approved with \$10.5 M loan from Dept. of Agriculture for rural regions. Expected to produce more than 7 M kW/yr.

Meadow Brook MOHF Report: (Ken/Ryan)

- Ken will add Ryan's contribution to the report.

Hedgerow Support: Julie and Anne are having an art exhibition on St. George Day and will donate 10% of the profits to CC for trail development. Handout is complete. Ingrid has volunteered to work with Hedgerow for the PR.

New Business

Select Board Update: (Tammy) Not here.

Planning Board Update: (Terry) Nothing to report.

Next meeting is moved to June 9th.

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

Respectfully submitted by Dan Verrillo