

Finalized Minutes

St. George Conservation Commission for Thursday March 1, 2018

Attendance: Joss Coggeshall, Dan Verrillo, Ken Oelberger, Ingrid Mroz, Tom Gorrill, John Knuerr, Terry Bracket, and Anita Siegenthaler (FOSG).

Announcements:

- Oil spill near 301 Glenmere Rd. Excavated and removed soil but more than half not recovered. Monitoring wells installed by DEP.
- MACC meeting on March 10th in Brunswick. Three CC members plan to attend.

Modifications to Agenda: None

Minutes: Motion to approve February minutes as amended made by Joss. Seconded by Tom. Approved unanimously.

Old Business

Footpaths: (Tom)

- Meadowbrook: Public stakeholders meeting hosted by MCHT on February 1st. Abutting neighbors were supportive but want to walk the proposed trail before it is blazed.
- Meadowbrook: The parking area will need tree clearing to allow the necessary 425 ft line-on-site for the 45 mph speed limit. Will look into reducing speed limit to 35 mph.
- Met with Cherie on website changes.
- Spring Trail Cleanup: Recon scheduled for April 28th and cleanup on May 5th.
- Bill and Ingrid cleared the downed trees on the Nature Trail.

Land Trust Coordination: (Ken)

- Meadowbrook: The management plan was submitted by MCHT to MNRCP.
- Clark Island: SB voted unanimously to add a line item to the Community Services budget of \$10 k to partner with MCHT on St. George projects rather than a large donation only for the purchase of Clark Island. The intent is that the line item will be continued year to year but may change in amount.

Town Solar: (Dan/Joss)

- ReVision Energy has completed the solar array installation and CMP has installed a meter. They are waiting for town approval to start the system. CC recommends an immediate start.
- CC approved a “switch pulling” ceremony on April 9th at 3PM followed at 4PM by an information session. FOSG will help with parking coordination and refreshments. ReVision will be notified of the date so that they can participate.
- Once installed a web link showing system performance will be added to the Town Solar section of the Town website.
- Joss will look into participation by St. George School.

- The Town Newsletter announced the solar installation but without a specific dates.

Education Committee: (Suzanne not here) See Invasives

Invasives: (Ingrid)

- A finalized framework for the invasive plant initiative was presented to CC for comment. There were some comments but overall the framework was considered a great document that can be modified every year.
- Main Framework Goals: 1. Education, 2. Supportive materials on most damaging species, 3. Working with students and 4. Mapping for 2018. Fort Point will be mapped first.
- A panel discussion will be held April 26th at 7 PM led by Amanda Devine . Topics include: Why invasives are a problem, identification, which are the worst for our area, how to eradicate and properly dispose and better replacement options. Discussion will be only on plant species.
- Working on a “walk and talk” in partnership with GRLT sometime in September.

Steam Restoration: (Joss/Dan)

- Fish ladder: Still waiting on design and costs. Ben Matthews will send survey by April 9th. Nature Conservancy has engaged Mark Jordan to submit a design.
- Landscaping: Ann Cox (Hedgerow) has agreed to help with a design and cost estimate.
- Permitting: Army Corp of Engineers, DEP and Town will need plans before applying for permits. Amanda and Terry can help with permit applications for any alteration of the stream and banks called for by any of the designs.
- Terry suggested that any design be verified by one or more outside consultants. Stream velocity and pool size are major factors to consider.

Comprehensive Plan: (Ken/Dan) CC submitted some changes to the plan but has not received a response yet.

Budget FY19: (Ken) CC budget items accepted. Final SB recommendation on March 5th.

New Business

Land Use: (Joss)

- Collaboration with other agencies: Used the example of the culvert installation as an example of the numerous agencies and individuals necessary for projects like that.
- Two Useful Handouts: 1. Best Management Practices for Forestry [Protecting Maine’s Water Quality] by the Maine Forest Service. 2. Pocket guide on Stream Smart [Road Crossing] by Maine DOT.

Select Board Update: (Tammy) Not here

Planning Board Update: (Terry) Nothing to add.

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

Respectfully submitted by Dan Verrillo