

Winterport Conservation Commission
November 28, 2023
Minutes

1. Call To Order - Mary Anne Royal called the meeting to order at 6:05
2. Roll Call Attendance - Kelsey Sullivan, Jeremy Paxton, Lily Calderwood, Mary Anne Royal and Associate Member Dave Katzman
3. Additions to Agenda - None
4. Approve Agenda - Motion to approve agenda LC, 2nd JP, unanimous.
5. Approve October Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve October minutes as presented, JP, 2nd, KS, unanimous
6. Old Business
 - a. Sign update - no update
 - b. Forest Management Plan - Ken Strickland has not yet sent report for our review; MAR will request an update; attack Ken's report to Zoe's plan when we submit to Town Council for further action; LC sent emails to blueberry harvester, Josh, and Ken to make plans for proposed cutting; MAR will contact Town Manager about any feedback he might receive as we move forward.
 - c. Blueberry harvest - MAR emailed a second request to Town Manager but has not yet received a reply.
 - d. Trails maintenance - KS and DK completed clearing the wooded section of the Blueberry Hill trail and KS acquired some chips to fill in section on the trail; KS will schedule another work day; KS will finalize purchase of chainsaw; consensus to encourage volunteers to assist with trail work using the Volunteer process set up for the 2nd Time around building which means individuals have to sign a form at the Town Office and be approved for coverage under the Town's insurance before they can be allowed to participate; MAR will alert Town Manager to the possibility of individuals showing up at the Town Office to complete the process; MAR order the paint for blazing but it is on backorder.
 - e. Snowmobile Club Partnership - KS will contact Town Office about contact information; MAR will review minutes and email KS with what we did learn from Katherine's Collins contact with them.
 - f. Conservation projects at Smith and Wagner schools - MAR met with Wagner staff about setting up a Conservation Club or project; no applications received yet; discussion created a variety of possibilities for outreach to RSU 22 and other allied groups; JP will contact the Penobscot Nation about their conservation efforts along the Penobscot Watershed; future agenda item: contact RSU 22 about a partnership to create educational spaces within their property boundaries.

7. New Business

- a. Volunteer Maine-Maine Service Fellow - JP will gather more information;
 - b. Penobscot Estuary Beneficial Environmental Projects Trust - LC in contact with Estuary program manager; it is expected some funds will be available for a second round of grants; not feasible to meet the Dec deadline; LC contacted Bill Olver who was open to considering easements along his property to create a the trail as it was originally envisioned; MAR will get contact information for current owner of the Winterport Terminal; LC will take the lead in pursuing and JP will assist;
 - c. Recreational Trails Grant - Tabled;
 - d. Brochure - LC introduced the idea of creating a brochure for residents; as a new resident she would have liked to know about the history of these properties and that they are accessible for recreational purposes; JP and DK agreed; MAR will contact Tanya Lubansky about working with LC to create the brochure; MAR will email LC Notes From Past Minutes for historical reference.
8. Next Meeting - December meeting not feasible; January 23, 2024.
9. Adjourn - Motion to adjourn, JP, 2nd, LC, unanimous; meeting adjourned at 7:37.

Date Approved: January 30, 2024