

Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2020
Lower Level Conference Room

Present: Jim Tasse, Chair, Matt Craig, Emily Helliesen Day, Bruce Moore,

Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner

1. Mr. Tasse called the meeting to order. First item was election of Chair in accordance with the Board and Committee Ordinance. Conservation Committee minutes for 2017, 2018, and 2019 were checked to confirm that Mr. Tasse did not serve as chair in 2018, and so is eligible to serve a second consecutive term in 2020. He was nominated and unanimously elected as Chair. The committee also reviewed the 2020 meeting schedule. Several members will not be able to attend the February 11th meeting, so the meeting date was changed to February 25th.
2. No citizens wanted to comment.
3. The minutes were approved with a correction that at the meeting, the minutes approved were for the November 12, 2019 meeting (Item #1).
4. Signage. Staff said both signs are in process for spring installation.
5. Trail CIP RFP. The committee reviewed the draft RFP. It was noted the project would require some expertise to map wetlands that could be used for later permitting. Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Craig, that expected project costs are in the range of \$20,000. The final draft was approved, and the schedule adjusted so the committee can review the proposals at the February 25th meeting.
6. Greenbelt projects. The committee received an update of discussions with Alewives Brook Farm, and the property owner has rejected the license suggestion. The Great Pond Boat Rack seasonal report was accepted with no change to current policies. Work on the Sahrbeck/Cox trail will wait for spring.

Mr. Tasse suggested the town schedule Mr. Nellis for additional trail rehab. The committee discussed candidate trails, including "Pinky and the Brain" in Winnick Woods and Gull Crest. Mr. Moore asked if we should wait for the results of the CIP project? The committee discussed using some of the current budget to work on trails that would likely be identified in the CIP project. After a motion made by Mr. Tasse, seconded

by Ms. Day, the committee voted to tentatively reserve \$5,000 for trail rehab work, with trails to be specified at a later meeting.

7. Winnick Woods. The committee discussed an offer by a member of the public to add a bike feature to Winnick Woods. Mr. Tasse suggested that a better location may be on the school campus. Mr. Moore observed that bikers at Winnick Woods are polite and it is the dogs that are out of control. Ms. Day questioned if more parking is needed. The committee agreed not to accept the offer of adding bike features at Winnick Woods, and not to look at parking lot expansion.
8. Gull Crest, Loveitt Woods. Staff was directed to increase the purchase of boards for replacement at Gull Crest from 20 to 30. Staff has sent letters to the Loveitt Woods access abutters and was asked to follow-up with a phone call.
9. Water body naming. The committee agreed to launch an online water body naming effort. The online poll will include an opportunity to note if the abutter is commenting. Additional comments should be emailed to the town planner.
10. Planning Board. The committee reviewed the Edgecomb Way RP permit application. A motion was made by Mr. Craig, seconded by Mr. Moore, that additional information regarding scour protection at the culvert outlet be provided. This recommendation will be sent to the Planning Board.
11. Joint training workshops. The committee was invited to join the Planning Board on a workshop reviewing the new comprehensive plan, which will probably be held in March. The committee agreed this would be useful and a good opportunity to connect with the Planning Board.
12. The next meeting was moved to February 25th, which will include a seasonal trail closure discussion. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.