

Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 25, 2020
Jordan Conference Room

Present: Mitch Wacksman, Acting Chair, Matt Craig, Emily Helliesen Day, Christophe-Heijn De Vries, Corinne Ketcham, Bruce Moore.

Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner

1. Mr. Wacksman called the meeting to order. Each member was asked to introduce themselves and identify their favorite greenbelt location.
2. Public Comment. No citizens wished to comment.
3. Minutes. The minutes of the January 14, 2020 meeting were approved 6-0 with one clarifying amendment regarding dogs in Winnick Woods.
4. Gray Eagle Scout project. The committee discussed a possible eagle scout project with John Gray. He is 16 and would like to get his project done soon, which was supported by his father/Troop 30 committee chair Terry Gray. With the Trails CIP not yet completed (on tonight's agenda), finding an improvement project that did not also require permitting was challenging. The committee agreed that the bridge on the Two Lights Trail adjacent to the pond needs to be replaced. The bridge was hurriedly assembled with salvaged wood several years ago in advance of a 5 year deadline when the easement would have expired. Mr. Gray will also replace rotted boards in kind on the Two Lights Trail. He will come back to the March 10th meeting with a specific proposal and materials list.
5. Trails CIP proposals. The town received proposals, which were posted online under meeting materials, from Dubois and King, FB Environmental, Main-Land, Milone and MacBroom, Mitchell & Associates, and Sebago Technics. Jason Ready from Milone and MacBroom and Steve Harding from Sebago Technics attended the meeting and were provided an opportunity to talk about their proposals. Mr. Moore asked if any proposers had prior experience with the town. Ms. O'Meara briefly reviewed the experience in Cape and southern maine of the 6 proposals. Committee members agreed that they needed more time to review the proposals, so this item will appear on the March 10th agenda. The agenda will be limited to this and the boy scout project so that sufficient time is available.

6. Easements. Ms. O'Meara explained that the state required the town to report on easement monitoring every year. Committee members agreed to perform some of the monitoring and Ms. O'Meara distributed report forms for committee members to select from.
7. Water Body Naming Project. Judy Colby-George gave a presentation of the online water body naming survey. The committee was generally positive, but asked if the formatting can be changed to allow multiple submissions per map without restarting the survey. Judy will work on the change. The committee also received the draft letter that will be sent to water body abutters once the online survey is live. The goal is to get this operational within 2 months. Advertising should include local TV access with a link.
8. Trail Closure Policy. The committee decided that it is still too early to make trail closure recommendations, considering weather predictions. The committee voted unanimously to remove Cottage Brook from the alternate trails to use list so that it can also be closed if needed. Committee members will email in reports on poor trail conditions for the chair to consider in between committee meetings.
9. Online mapping. Judy Colby-George presented a sample of online mapping that can be provided with existing town software on the town website. It is the same program used by the Town of Falmouth. Mr. Wacksman asked about costs. Ms. Colby-George said that she would be paid to set it up using GIS software the town currently has and then there would be an annual maintenance fee. The online mapping could be populated with the user chart from the Management of Greenbelt and Open Space plan. The committee questioned the option of making this regional. Ms. Colby-George said it was possible if the data for each town was developed. It will be important to preserve the town's metadata as the output data is often imported by other entities that provide mapping. The committee agreed that Ms. O'Meara will work with Ms. Colby-George to firm up details to move ahead with offering online mapping.
10. Next meeting. The next meeting will be March 10th and the agenda will be limited to the Gray eagle scout project and the Trails CIP proposals review. The committee also confirmed that 30 hemlock boards will be ordered for replacing deteriorated boards on the Outer Loop trail. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.