

Freeport Conservation Commission

Date: 11-10-2020

Time: 6:30pm

Attendees: Ben Shepard, Ryan Burke, John Stroud, Matt McLaughlin, Mark Morrissey, Anna Cudmore, Guy Cutuchi

Absent:

1. Approve minutes from October Meeting,
 - a. Ben Shepard made motion to approve,
 - b. Matt McLaughlin made a second,
 - c. Minutes approved unanimously.
2. Website Update
 - a. The Town told Ryan Burke the Freeport Outdoors website can be updated,
 - i. Thought is to update the property descriptions, then link to the Freeport Conservation Trust for the maps for each property,
 - ii. Each steward to send Ryan a description of each property,
 1. Ben Shepard– Florida Lake
 2. Mark Morrissey – Hedgehog
 3. Ryan Burke – Soule Park
 4. Matt McLaughlin – Hidden Pond
 5. John Stroud - Quarry Woods
3. Property Updates
 - a. Florida Lake
 - i. Trail day held on 10/25, where several community members worked at Florida Lake,
 1. Two bridges were replaced on the North (Blue) Loop,
 2. The kiosk was repaired from vandalism,
 3. One large bridge was put in on the Lake (Orange) Loop off Baker Road.
 - ii. Need padlock for the chain that controls access to Florida Lake from Route 125 due to the vandalism of the kiosk,
 1. Ben Shepard made motion to spend \$10 for a padlock,
 - a. Ryan Burke made a second,

- b. Motion was approved unanimously.
- b. Hedgehog Mountain
 - i. A group of Town employees did some volunteer work on the trails,
 - ii. Sign at the top of the mountain,
 - 1. The design has been approved by the Commission,
 - 2. The sign could be installed on this coming weekend,
 - a. Ryan Burke to let the Commission know if this will occur and at what time.
- c. Hidden Pond
 - i. Hunters and ATVers have been using the unauthorized path from Grant Road to the back of the property,
 - ii. Wait until spring to see if this path can be used.
- d. Quarry Woods
 - i. Kiosk on Lower Mast Landing Road done,
 - 1. John Stroud and Ben Shepard finished roofing the kiosk.
 - ii. Trail work day
 - 1. Several bridging materials have been brought into the property and need to be installed,
 - a. There are materials for four bridges.
 - 2. John Stroud to reach out to Freeport Conservation Trust to see if a work day can be done to put in these bridges.
- e. Soule Park
 - i. Guy Cutuchi and Ryan Burke met with the French School on November 10 to discuss how to remedy cutting of the vegetation last year,
 - 1. There will be a plan worked on with the School on what to mow at the Park,
 - 2. A replanting plan is also being established,
 - 3. French School bought a house next to the school,
 - 4. There is a verbal agreement with the School on a conceptual way forward, but eventually the Commission will need to vote on a written plan with the School,
 - a. Ryan Burke will provide an update to Peter Joseph.

5. Friends of Soule Park plans to put up a sign for the Park.

4. Ordinance Discussion

- a. Daniel Piltch is the Freeport Town Council liaison,
 - i. Ryan Burke to see if Daniel can come to our next meeting to start process to update ordinances.
- b. There is an issue that several properties in their rules don't allow, or restrict, hunting,
 - i. However, since these restrictions are not in the ordinances, they cannot be enforced,
 - 1. There was a complaint submitted about hunting restrictions at Quarry Woods.
 - ii. Other restrictions such as no ATV's or snowmobiles might have issues being enforced.

5. Dog Waste Stations

- a. Daniel Piltch reached out to Ryan Burke to see if Shellfish Commission can empty dog waste stations,
 - i. However, this was tried previously and the Dog Waste Stations weren't emptied.
- b. The same day, Ryan Burke received a complaint from the Transfer Station that the Dog Waste Station at Hedgehog is never emptied, and people leave trash there,
 - i. Ryan Burke made a motion to remove the Dog Waste Station at Hedgehog, and spend \$15 to put in a Carry In/Carry Out sign,
 - 1. Ben Shepard seconded,
 - 2. Motion unanimously approved.

6. Miscellaneous

- a. Ben Shepard wishes to attend the next several meetings remote due to expecting a new baby and wanting to mitigate COVID risks.

7. Adjourn

- a. Ben Shepard made motion to adjourn,
- b. Matt McLaughlin seconded,
- c. Adjourn motion approved unanimously.

Next meeting: January 12 at 6:30pm at the Freeport Community Services