Freeport Conservation Commission

Date: 5-11-2021

Time: 6:30pm

Attendees: Matt McLaughlin, Ryan Burke, Ben Shepard, John Stroud, Catherine Carroll

Absent: Anna Cudmore, Mark Morrissey

1. Approve minutes from April meeting
   1. Catherine Carroll made motion to approve
   2. John Stroud seconded
   3. Minutes approved unanimously
2. Budget Discussion
   1. Ben Shepard made proposal to purchase the following:
      1. New kiosk at Hidden Pond
         1. Split cost with Public Works as committed by them from damage done during plowing last winter
      2. Planks for bridges at Florida Lake
      3. 7 to 8 new ladder bridges
   2. John Stroud made motion to approve
      1. Ryan Burke seconded
      2. Motion approved unanimously
   3. Ben Shepard to work with Earl Gibson to coordinate ordering kiosk materials
   4. Ben Shepard to reach out to Anna Cudmore to get lumber at Machismos
3. Hedgehog gift update
   1. Toner family proposes gift to put a bench at the top of Hedgehog Mountain, and provide a replacement sign at the end of the Transfer Station Road for the property
      1. The current sign is rotted
         1. The new sign would be in the format of other Welcome to Freeport signs around Town, and would have a little stone wall
      2. Bench to have a plaque in memory of Ken Toner
   2. John Stroud made motion to approve of bench gift
      1. Matt McLaughlin seconded
      2. Motion approved unanimously
   3. For the sign at the end of the Transfer Station Road, there is concern the Town should weigh in on the format and looks of the sign
      1. The sign may have to go in front of the Project Review Board for approval
   4. Matt McLaughlin to ask on how to get the sign on the Project Review Board
      1. Ryan Burke made a motion for the Town to accept the gift
      2. John Stroud seconded
      3. Motion approved unanimously
4. Hunter Fields Follow Up
   1. Ryan Burke reached out to the Town about who to talk to about Hunter Road expansion into Hedgehog Mountain property
      1. No response
   2. Ryan to reach out to the Town Council liaison Dan Piltch
5. Property updates
   1. Soule Park
      1. Ryan Burke received quote for the re-planting
         1. $5,800
         2. No response from the Town on moving forward with this
            1. Ryan Burke to continue following up with the Town
   2. Hedgehog Mountain
      1. No updates
   3. Quarry Woods
      1. No updates
   4. Florida Lake
      1. Catherine Carroll wants to pick up track on site
         1. Catherine to follow up on when she wants to do this work, so she gets help
      2. Management Plan
         1. Ryan Burke to ask Dan Piltch about Town Council approving the Management Plan
   5. Hidden Pond
      1. Workday held to put down wood chips on the loop path
      2. No new dirt bike activity
      3. Blaze new trail to the back of the property
         1. There appears to be a Town owned property adjacent to Hidden Pond that has some frontage on Grant Road
            1. This is according to the 2019 Freeport Tax Maps
         2. Matt McLaughlin did some research, and the Town doesn’t know they own the property or have a deed
         3. Matt McLaughlin to follow up with the Freeport Conservation Trust to see if they have a deed
         4. Have next meeting at Hidden Pond on site
6. Adjourn
   1. Ben Shepard made a motion to adjourn
      1. Ryan Burke seconded
      2. Adjourn approved unanimously

Next meeting: June 8, 2021, 6:00pm at Hidden Pond