

Freeport Conservation Commission
Minutes for September 10, 2019
6:00pm – L'Ecole Française du Maine
6:30pm – Freeport Community Center

Present: Ben Shepard, Theresa Oleksiw, Andrew Arsenault, Ryan Burke, Guy Blanchard
Excused: Dimitra Voulgari, Mike Stumbo

Meeting called to order at 6pm.

1. Soule Park Tree Risk Assessment/Discussion/Recommended Action

Conservation Commission reviewed Tree Risk Assessment and walked the Soule Park/French School property. One resident was present and shared neighborhood's views.

Moved and Seconded: to accept the arborist recommendations as read and written in the Tree Risk Assessment: Soule Park, Town of Freeport dated July 28, 2019, which includes recommendations for tree maintenance and tree removal as well as recommendations for moving picnic tables and playground equipment. Conservation Commission advises the town to take action on the report's recommendations.

Vote: AYE 5/NAY 0

2. Approve Minutes from July Meeting

Moved and Seconded: to approve minutes from July meeting.

Vote: AYE 5/NAY 0

3. Florida Lake: Maine Conservation Corps, Beaver Deceiver, Conservation Trust Trail Challenge

Ben Shepard provided overview of Maine Conservation Corps visit August 19-30. Using visual aides, Ben indicated areas where work was completed and what remains to be done. Material has been staged at areas for future bog bridge construction. Objective for rest of year is to continue to move materials to places that need it and construct more bridges if possible. Ben has started a "Friends of Florida Lake" Facebook group to encourage frequent visitors to participate in trail maintenance activities.

The project budget requires review and will confirm expenditures and invoices with Jessica Maloy at town hall.

A new trail map will be installed at Florida Lake. It was agreed that trail names should be: North Loop (Blue Trail) and Lake Loop (Orange Trail).

On the morning of September 21, a beaver deceiver will be installed at the Florida Lake canal. There were numerous problems last year with culverts getting clogged and flooding the area and trails. Boy Scout Tucker Gagnon will construct the beaver deceiver which will prevent debris from moving into culverts.

Conservation Trust has requested revisions to the North Freeport trail map. Ben Shepard will make the revisions.

Both Florida Lake and Hidden Pond will be mowed this month.

4. Other Property Updates

The map atop Hedgehog Mountain has been stolen for a second time. This time, the entire stand has been taken and only the legs remain. Guy will follow up with Tom Ross to determine the price of constructing a metal stand that will be more difficult to remove.

5. Trail maintenance at Quarry Woods: Saturday, September 14, 8am

Commission members will be meeting at Quarry Woods on Saturday to do some minor trail maintenance, including spreading the woodchip pile and trimming branches that encroach on the trail.

6. Next Meeting: New Appointee to Commission/Elections for Chair, Secretary, Treasurer

Next Meeting is October 8.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.