

Town of Edgecomb
Minutes for Schmid Preserve Advisory Board Meeting
September 19, 2018, 7 p.m., Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chair Bob Leone called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Members present were Andy Abello, Jim Beam, Bob Leone, Laura Lubelczyk, Lisa McSwain and David Nutt. Also present were Selectman Mike Smith, Janet Blevins and Alice Abbott. There was no public input.

2. Chairman's Report – Bob Leone

- a. Review of Meeting Minutes: There were no additions or corrections.
- b. Next Meeting: October 17
- c. Board Status: The terms of Bob Leone and David Nutt will be renewed by the selectmen at their next meeting.
- d. Elect a Chairman: Lisa McSwain nominated Bob Leone as chairman. There were no other nominations and Leone was elected chairman, vote 5-0-1 (Leone abstained).

3. Selectman's report

- a. Alice Abbott, owner of the horse farm previously owned by Katharine Braid, was present and said she thought the back land next to the Schmid Preserve could be better used by the preserve and would like to donate it to the town. Dennis Berube had told her that the 13 acres in tree growth was valued at \$4,000 and would be a tax loss of \$70 per year at current rates. He said the property could remain in tree growth when conveyed to the Town. It was suggested that she cut the timber if she wanted to benefit from it before the sale. Mike Smith said he thought that the gift could be accepted without having to go to town meeting, but he would inquire. Abbott said members of the board would be welcome to visit the property. Bob Leone said a visit would be scheduled and he would contact Abbott about a date.
- b. Lallis Discussion: Mike Smith said the property had been offered to the abutters, but neither was interested. The selectmen have set \$25,000 as the minimum selling price.
- c. LWCF Grant Discussion: The Land and Water Conservation Fund had funded the tennis court behind the school in 1974. The property had since been conveyed to Edgecomb Green. Because the tennis court is no longer being used for recreational purposes, the government requires that it be replaced with another site. A Class I audit of the property must be conducted, and the town will have to develop a game plan to purchase a recreational property to replace the tennis court. If ignored the town will not be eligible for any federal grants. It was suggested that perhaps the gift from Alice Abbott could be used; however, the government must approve the purchase if it is to be used as repayment of the tennis court grant.

4. Land Acquisition, Boundaries and Roads

a. Road Trimming – Fire Protection: Leone said trimming should be done to keep access open. Lisa McSwain said there are several leaners and she and Joe will remove them.

5. Public Relations and Stewardship – Andy Abello and Lisa McSwain

a. ATV Use: Lisa McSwain said ATV use has been stopped because access has been blocked.

b. Horseback Use: Andy Abello said there had been some horseback use and manure had been left on the trail. His note, “Leave no trace,” had been removed several times. He said this could be a problem if not stopped. It was suggested that a sign under plexiglass be put on the kiosks and Janet Blevins will put a notice on the website. Janet will send proposed wording for the sign and website to the board.

c. Schmid Sign: Bob Leone said he had not yet painted the sign but would do so soon. Mike Smith said that the Joint Economic Development Committee (JEDC) had discussed signage on the peninsula. The town had approved \$1,000 for the Wayfaring Committee of the JEDC which may be used for coordinated signing.

d. Mowing: Allen Hersom has begun mowing on Middle Road. A flat fee of \$1000 had been set for the mowing.

e. Emerald Ash Borer: Leone said he had emerald ash borer on his property and would be monitoring information on it.

6. Trails – Jim Beam and David Nutt

a. Mt. Hunger Bridge: The bridge is the highest priority before winter. Leone said materials are at Andy Abello’s and there are funds for the other needs. He estimated it would take two days.

7. Other Business

The bridge, road trimming and Alice Abbott’s proposal are the board’s priorities. Leone will email members regarding the walk on Abbott’s property.

Jim Beam said someone should talk to Jimmy Small about the piece of land he wants to buy to connect his two properties. Mike Smith said he would pass the information on to the chairman.

8. Public Input and Comment – None

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.