Town of Edgecomb
Minutes for Schmid Preserve Advisory Board Meeting
January 15, 2020, 7 p.m., Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairman Bob Leone called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Members present were Andy Abello, Bob Leone, Laura Lubelczyk, Lisa McSwain, David Nutt and selectman Mike Smith. There was no public input.

2. Chairman’s Report

   a. Review of Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved as amended.

   b. Next Meeting – February 19

   c. Draft Budget: The current year’s budget was discussed. The board approved the secretary’s hourly rate increase to $20, the rate being paid by the Planning Board and Ordinance Review Committee; however, the budget line was not increased. Road Maintenance and Printing budget lines remained the same. In response to a question of a possible expense with the addition of land to the preserve, Leone said there was still $150 in the old account. The total proposed budget remained the same as the current year’s.

3. Selectman’s Report

Mike Smith said a check for $500 had been received from the Boothbay Region Land Trust in lieu of property taxes, and Smith asked the board to be thinking of possible uses for the money if it were offered to the preserve. He suggested it could be used as seed money for a capital campaign. Road maintenance, enlarging a parking area, and bridge work were suggested as possible uses. The Selectmen will discuss the contribution at their February meeting. Any funds would have to be accepted at Town Meeting.

Smith asked the board to keep track of all donated funds for the auditor. Laura Lubelczyk suggested also keeping track of volunteer hours.

Smith announced that Lisa and Joe McSwain had won the Spirit of America Award for their volunteer work.

Bob Leone asked if the Conservation Committee was monitoring the sale of the Deck House. Smith said the preference was to sell the 200-acre property to a nonprofit or, failing that, it would be put on the open market.

4. Land Acquisition, Boundaries and Roads

   a. Parking Area Use: Bob Leone said the sheriff had monitored the lots.

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

   a. Hunting Season Recap: Lisa McSwain said there was a lot of hunting this year, and it appeared hunters were following the rules. She reported at least one deer had been shot.
b. Purple Trail Location: The trail will be moved from the wet area to higher ground and the area will be flagged.

c. Mountain Biking Event: The event held by Rick Nelson went well and was well attended.

6. Trails – Jim Beam and David Nutt

a. Winter Trail Patrolling: Lisa and Joe McSwain have cut up fallen trees.

b. Meadow Brook Bridge: The top of the red trail needs work and will be on the spring work schedule. There are wet areas on the yellow trail and David Nutt suggested cutting channels to improve the drainage. The Meadow Brook Bridge is high on the priority list. It was suggested building a new bridge to the right of old bridge. The width of the bridge was discussed; 18 inches is too narrow for bikes, and 30” or 36” was recommended with rails possibly slanted outward. The board has the materials for the bridge.

7. Other Business

Lisa McSwain offered Joe’s help in fixing one of the picnic tables in the preserve. Bob Leone will ask Ames for a donation of a table.

8. Public Input and Comment – none

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.