

Town of Edgecomb  
Minutes for Schmid Preserve Advisory Board Meeting  
September 15, 2021, 7 p.m. Edgecomb Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chair Lisa McSwain called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Members present were Andy Abello, Laura Lubelczyk, Lisa McSwain, Rick Nelson, David Nutt, and Rebecca Schaffner.

2. Chairperson's Report – Lisa McSwain

a. Review of minutes of June 2021: Rebecca Schaffner moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 2021. Vote 6-0-0.

b. Maren Granstrom, Intern for Mid-Maine Forestry to discuss Management Plan: A questionnaire was distributed to the members, and Lisa McSwain said priorities for the Management Plan included the health of the soil and water, historic foundations, wells, invasive species, types of users, limiting to recreational uses, prohibiting motorized vehicles, additional trails, and use of the bike trails. Tree harvesting was discussed with members expressing concern that it should be done only for the health of the forest. Granstrom asked what message the board wanted to convey such as global warming or what trees were better for the environment, or cultural history such as stone walls and the root cellar. Suggestions from the board included clearer marking of the trails such as "you are here" signs, boundary marking, and bigger projects in the next few years such as adding trails. A use survey for feedback from users of the preserve on 3 x 5 cards was suggested, as determining uses of the preserve such as walking, biking, cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, etc. would be helpful for fund-raising in the future. Granstrom summarized the board's priorities: Primary use is recreation, non-motorized vehicles only, encourage public use, information on history (signage or pamphlet), potential for a more active forest management for the health of the forest, funds for trail improvement, wildlife habitat, connecting to DRA trails, adding Abbott property, laying out grid for timber inventory, water quality, and Best Management Practices.

c. Next meeting October 20, 2021: The board discussed holding meetings via zoom with notification on the Town website of the zoom address for public access. Further discussion will take place in October for possibly changing to zoom in January.

3. Selectmen's Report – none

4. Land Acquisition, Boundaries, Roads

a. Acquisition of Abbott property (still pending): Lisa McSwain reported no progress on the land swap; however, she will attend the next selectmen's meeting to see what progress had been made and to explore acquiring the property directly and making the trade retroactively. A survey and appraisal will be needed.

5. Trails

a. Current trail condition and plan for trail maintenance and improvements before winter: There were reports of trees down on the Moose Trail and on Old County Road. Weed whacking is needed on both north and south Old County Road. The new bridge on the Blue trail needs rebuilding and another one installed. A work day was scheduled for October 24; there will be a fund-raising mountain bike ride (Edgecomb Blitz) on November 7.

b. Construction of more bog bridging and locations

c. Gravel spreading and road improvement

d. ATV and partying issues

## 6. Mapping

a. Format and reprinting of trail maps to match new kiosk maps. Addition of new plexiglass on existing kiosk maps. Lisa McSwain thanked Becky Schaffner for her work on the maps.

## 7. Other Business

a. Management plan/grant/invasive species

b. Endowment: Lisa McSwain reported she had an offer of funds toward the endowment. She asked members to think of potential donors. She said \$10,000 will be needed to start.

c. Volunteer hours: Laura Lybelczyk will update the volunteer hours.

## 8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.