

Schmid Preserve Advisory Committee

10/20/2021

1. Call to Order: Chair Lisa McSwain called the meeting to order at 7:05. Members present were Andy Abello, Laura Lubelczyk, Lisa McSwain, Rick Nelson, David Nutt, and Rebecca Schaffner.
2. Minutes from September 15 were reviewed. Becky Schaffner moved to accept the minutes and Laura Lubelczyk seconded. Approved unanimously.
3. Next meeting: November 17, 2021. Barrie Brusilla and Janet McMahon will attend to provide an update on the management plan.
4. Selectman Mike Smith reported on the status of the tennis court issue and the Alice Abbott property. Accepting the parcel as part of the Schmid and using it for the exchange could result in the Schmid being subject to federal oversight. The sentiment now is that it would be preferable to accept the parcel as separate from the Preserve. One option would be for Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust to accept the property, with a written agreement to return it to the town of Edgecomb in the future. Mike Smith noted that the town is ineligible for any federal grants while in default on the tennis courts.
 - a. A motion was made to recommend to the Select board that Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust be allowed to accept the property with the written understanding that CRCT would transfer it back to the Town if needed for the exchange. The motion was approved unanimously.
5. Endowment: No question on the warrant is necessary to start the endowment. Lisa has been in discussion with the Maine Community Foundation to manage the endowment. While they manage it they will provide 4% of the value to the Preserve yearly, at the Schmid Advisory Board's request, otherwise the 4% will be reinvested into the endowment fund.
 - a. Amanda Russell spoke about the fundraising process for the purchase of Haselton Parcel (2000). The effort began with fundraising from private donors, which raised \$11,0000. Benefits of local fundraising: feeling of ownership by donors, easier than tracking down national grant sources. Recommended to develop a list of potential donors. Amanda is willing to help with fundraising effort for the endowment.
 - b. Lisa will meet with Nick Ullo, executive director of the Boothbay Region Land Trust to ask about managing the endowment and how we might use the yearly interest. David Nutt noted that we should have clear goals for the future of the endowment.
6. Trail Day-10/24/21: Meet at the Old County Road gate. Plan is to assist with carrying supplies to rebuild one of the bridges. Others will do general trail maintenance and clearing.
7. Maps: Lisa has installed new plexiglass over the kiosk maps. Discussion of putting log books in kiosks-Laura will create a sign in sheet, Lisa offered clipboards and we will place them at the kiosks. David offered to make waterproof boxes for the logs. Laura suggested an online survey as well. There are issues with maintaining the town website, which Mike says will be resolved eventually.
8. Volunteer hours: Lisa reminded members to update Volunteer Hours log online.
9. Meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.