

TOWN OF EDGECOMB
MINUTES FOR SCHMID PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, June 15, 2022
6:30 P.M., McSwain's Residence

1. Call to Order

Chair Lisa McSwain called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Lisa McSwain, Laura Lubelczyk, David Nutt, Mike Smith, Andy Abello, Rick Nelson, Becky Schaffner were present.

- a. Review minutes from May 18, 2022: Laura Lubelczyk moved to accept the minutes as written. Vote 6-0-0.
- b. Next Meeting September 21, 2022 7 pm at the town hall. Barrie Brusila and Maren Granstrom plan to attend to discuss the new management plan.
- c. Selectman's report: Discussion about fire department training on the preserve. It was the general consensus that the board was good with holding the training on Old County Road and on the preserve as long as no fire fighting foam was used and that any ditching would be filled in. Mike said he would let Forrest Carver know (contact at FD) and Lisa would follow up.

3. Update on Management plan and continued discussion of future objectives for the preserve:

Lisa McSwain said the management plan was complete and a hard copy has been received. Rick Nelson printed off copies of the plan and Lisa will bind and distribute a copy to each board member for summer reading. It is also available electronically as a PDF.

Further discussion about future invasive mitigation, partnering with CRCT and other local land trusts on invasive mitigation, specifically Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. CRCT has released the HWA eating beetles on a few large hemlocks on near the Schmid boundary with CRCT as an experiment. Invasive mitigation and control and boundary marking are at the top of the list of to-do's in the new plan.

4. Trails

- a. Current trail conditions: Work day on May 22nd went very well. A lot was accomplished. The new, donated picnic table was installed in the field, extra planks were added to the wet area by the gate on the purple trail, cable and signage was installed at the North gate to prevent access by 4-wheelers, trails were cut back and there was clearing of some down trees. A thank you note was sent to Ames Hardware for the picnic table. Joe McSwain continued spreading gravel on the road to firm it up. The "thank you mams" were cleaned out. Rick made ramps to the bridges on the Blue trail.
- b. Lisa attended the HWA training on May 21st and determined that nearly every hemlock on the preserve has HWA.
- c. There was discussion about CRCT's prohibition of bike use on the River Link trail. Board members decided that they do not want biking prohibited on the Schmid portion of River Link since we have not seen any negative impacts on our portion of River Link. Rick and Andy said they might go to a CRCT meeting to discuss bike use on trails in general on CRCT land.

5. Endowment Fundraising Plan

- a. Continued discussion of how to obtain money for the endowment. It was suggested that we have a donation form attached to the new use survey as well as on the town website and kiosks. Electronic donation would be preferable and Lisa will contact Maine Community Foundation for technical help setting that up.
- b. Laura and Becky offered to help Lisa with a press release and creation of some materials for fundraising. We are still hoping to have an Ice Cream social this summer to kick off our fundraising efforts.

6. Other Business

We have approximately \$2500 in our savings account and another \$2200 will be released on July 1 as our budget for this next fiscal year. The town is using the money in the savings and some of our budget to pay Mid-Maine Forestry for the management plan but as soon as the grant monies are received by the town, the town will pay the Schmid accounts back in full.

Update on Abbott property: Lisa has tried several times to contact Mrs. Abbott with no success. Finally and unfortunately putting the acquisition of the Abbott property to rest.

Lisa complimented Becky and Laura on the survey for the preserve. Working on installing a QR code in the kiosks which will link to the survey.

8. Adjourn

David moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Vote 6-0-0.