

**Town of Edgecomb**  
**Minutes for Schmid Preserve Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 21, 2022**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Lisa McSwain called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Andy Abello, Lisa McSwain, Becky Schaffner, Laura Lubelczyk, Rick Nelson were present.

- a. Review minutes from June 15, 2022: Laura Lubelczyk moved to accept the minutes as written. Andy Abello seconded the motion. Vote 5-0-0
- b. Next Meeting: October 19, 2022 P.M. at the town hall. Laura Lubelczyk will chair/run the meeting in absence of Lisa McSwain.
- c. The Selectman's Report was postponed due to Selectman Mike Smith attending another meeting off site.

**2. Review of the Management Plan with Barrie Brusilla and Maren Granstrom of Mid-Maine Forestry.**

a. Lisa McSwain reported that per the Management Plan, the Schmid Advisory Board had initiated an endowment plan. As of September 21, just over \$50,000 has been raised. She explained that the endowment principal is managed by the Maine Community Foundation. The interest it earns cannot be used for anything except the Schmid Preserve. The funds in the endowment are invested in perpetuity. The endowment, which is invested through the Maine Community Foundation, produces 4% annually. The goal is to take the pressure off of the Town of Edgecomb taxpayers by adding to the endowment so that larger, critical projects and maintenance requirements can be funded when needed.

b. Lisa McSwain reported that a fundraiser for the endowment was held on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at Blanchard's Creamery. The purpose of this was to raise money for the newly established Schmid Preserve Endowment Fund and to educate people about the 766 acre preserve in the middle of Edgecomb. Blanchard's Creamery, located on Rte. 27, created a special flavor of ice cream – Mount Hunger Mudslide - for the event which was a deliciously big hit and sold out. The raffle prizes were donated by local artisans and neighbors. The event brought in over \$1000 in cash to add to the endowment fund.

c. There is no update to the species list in the Management Plan.

d. An Ecological Update can be conducted later.

e. Blazing the boundaries is an important task to accomplish. Plastic tags on trees of the boundaries is not an efficient way to mark the boundaries. Blazing with paint is a more standard and easier-to-see method. There is a diagram in the plan on how to blaze and paint. Mid-Maine Forestry will send the advisory board the fact sheet on how to do this. It entails following the survey lines to flag first and then on a second walk to blaze with paint. This is a multi-year project, performed over several years.

f. The cost of the Maine State Program vector funding of an invasive control plan and potentially monies to assist with invasive control is an upfront cost with a reimbursement amount coming later. The invasive control plan can use the recent work of the Management Plan to map the "hot spots," making it a bit cheaper. There is no guarantee that the money would be awarded, so more discussion is needed. Any work to control invasives must be repeated; it is not a one-shot deal. "You have to keep at it." Containment may be a more realistic goal than eradication. This would prevent spreading. Andy Abello will bring in his Invasives Plan for his own land for the Advisory Board to view and further discuss as an agenda item in the future. Lisa McSwain asked for recommendations for volunteer instructions when a volunteer day for work on the invasives happens, Mid-Maine Forestry will send them this.

g. Pruning of the apple trees needs to be done again. This will be a volunteer effort in the early spring.

h. A forest health inspection is not a formal effort, but an annual inspection. It should be done with an eye to viewing areas of the preserve carefully, not just hiking around.

i. Trail work needs to be continued. There is a stream crossing that may need work, but maintenance is more of a priority than creating new trails. Having places with no trail access is important. Conducting and continuing to use the survey to find out what people think and want is useful.

### **3. Trails**

a. Fall Work Day – Sunday, November 6 with a rain date of November 13. The Advisory Board needs to compile a list for volunteers by the next meeting. A Save-the-Date email will be sent out mid-October and then again just before the work day.

b. By the next meeting, have your assessments of trail work needed. These may define the Fall Work Day better.

c. Joe McSwain has made two more benches. One may be good at the bottom of the hill in Haggett Field, and the other may be good on the ravine section of “Allen's Trail,” which is off the blue trail. Placing the benches may be a Fall Work Day task.

d. Rick Nelson is organizing the October 23 “FonSol Bike Ride.” A portion of the proceeds will be given to the endowment. A volunteer (s) may be needed at HVNC on that day to man the table.

e. Mowing has been done in the lower field off Middle Road and will continue.

f. \$51,535 has been raised for the endowment. Chair Lisa McSwain has been writing personal thank-you notes.

g. On October 1, there is meeting for interested people to discuss Edgecomb's 250 anniversary. Chair Lisa McSwain will attend with Becky Schaffner.

### **4. Budget**

\$2200.00 appropriated

\$2344.65 is saved in a carry-over which is still the Advisory's

~~-\$185.57~~ (expense for endowment mailing printing and postage)

\$4359.08 (current money in account )

Gravel and lumber purchases can be made with this money

### **5. MISC.**

a. The Advisory Board will purchase a gift certificate for Jackie. Each member will contribute \$10 and Chair Lisa McSwain will purchase a card and a Sarah's gift certificate in the amount of \$75. .

b. Send Laura Lubelczyk all volunteer hours.

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 P.M.**