

**Town of Edgecomb**  
**Minutes for Schmid Preserve Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 2023**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Lisa McSwain called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. In attendance were Becky Schaffner, Rick Nelson, Andy Abello. Laura Lubelczyk and Selectman Mike Smith were absent. Lyn Norgang, a newly elected Selectperson, was in attendance in the audience. .

- a. Review minutes from April 19, 2023. With corrections (spelling “Nickerson, Coastal Rivers, Pientowski”) Becky Schaffner moved to accept the minutes as written. Rick Nelson seconded the motion. Vote 3-0-0
- b. Next Meeting: June 21, 2023 - 6:30 P.M. In-person at the home of Chair Lisa McSwain.
- c.No Selectman's Report as Mike Smith was absent.
- d. Chair Lisa McSwain reported that the Advisory Board has accepted two new members: Lauren Stockwell, who will arrive later in the year, , and Cindy Nickerson who will be at the next meeting..

**2. Agenda items**

**a. BUDGET**

There is currently \$2046.83 in the Schmid account. The current town contribution to the Preserve's budget is \$2800 (up from \$1800) and will be added after the Town Meeting if it passes, which it is expected. If there are needs, we need to define them by June 30's end of fiscal year. The suggestions were as follows:

Gravel on Old County Road

Lumber for bridges (Rick Nelson will compile a list and send to Lisa)

Planks for some wet spots off Bob Brown Parking Lot on Middle Road

If anyone else has ideas, please send them to Lisa McSwain.

The endowment now stands at \$63,550.83, and donations are still coming in. The donor letter went into the Town Report. The endowment money is not technically available until 2024, but we will be able to access the 2023 distribution then.

**b. SPRING WORK Day**

The Spring Work day was very successful with much accomplished. Since then, there are a couple of recently fallen trees to remove.

**c. BOUNDARY BLAZING**

This will remain a project and goal we will chip away at

**d. INVASIVES MITIGATION PLAN**

Becky Schaffner has trained 3-4 people on I-MAP in the field and up to Old County Road. Invasives are tagged and are on I-MAP as a base of location to form plans of control and cutting before flowering

(usually a spring endeavor). Using chemical control affects birds and insects, which needs further discussion. Annual control after an initial cut-down may remain the safest method. Tarping may also prove viable in some areas. Lincoln Knox Soil & Water Conservation may have ideas that could dovetail with our current plan. In addition Natural Areas Program and Coastal Rivers may have non-financial resources.

**d. POLICIES on PRESERVE USAGE**

As previously discussed, there is a fine line of policy implementation regarding rock-hounding/mining that involves both discouraging regular usage and enforcement of policy. Boothbay Region Land Trust and Coastal Rivers have “Leave No Trace” but that doesn't reflect the intent to removing minerals/rocks (mostly mica in the case of the Preserve) or removing artifacts at foundations. Again, interpretive language that includes history of any site may precede “Please do not remove...” language in order to soften the anticipated blowback felt by the public from such a policy.

**e. SURVEYS/QUESTIONAIRES**

It was agreed that Becky will research and purchase 2 ready-made boxes.

**f. ABBOTT PROPERTY**

Per Lisa McSwain's contact with Boothbay Surveyors, their estimate to survey is \$4,000. The lawyer to write the deed for the donation from Abbott to the Town (possibly 15 acres) is another \$1,000. There would be another fee from the lawyer to write up the warrant to be presented at either a special town meeting or at the Annual Town Meeting on May 30, as in order to accept the donated land, townspeople must vote on it. This all entails a questionable amount of time to address the Selectmen, Claudia, the lawyer and Alice Abbott again. Lisa will contact both Claudia and Mike Smith to discuss.

**g. VOLUNTEER HOURS**

People need to submit their volunteer hours to Laura so she can close out 2022 and start a new spreadsheet for 2023.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:00.**