

Town of Edgecomb
Schmid Preserve Advisory Board Minutes
November 15, 2023

In attendance: Chair Lisa McSwain, Andy Abello, Rick Nelson, Becky Schaffner, Cindy Nickerson, Laura Lubelczyk, and Selectman Mike Smith.

1. Lisa McSwain called the meeting to order at 7:00.

A. Rick Nelson amended the October 18 minutes to say, "The Coastal Rivers Nov. 19 Work Day is to take place on their Damariscotta properties" rather than the Middle Road in Edgecomb. Rick then moved to accept the minutes from October 18, 2023. Cindy Nickerson seconded. Passed 6-0.

B. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, starting at 7:00, at the Town Hall.

C. There was no Selectman's Report by Mike Smith other than his sincere thanks to the Advisory Board.

2. Fall Work Day Wrap-up

A. There were 18 volunteers plus the USM interns! See the Lincoln County News article.

B. Spring Work Day needs to include: a bridge off the Purple Trail; the rest of the road from the Bob Brown Parking Lot. (yellow trail)

C. The Boothbay Region Land Trust has bridged the stream from the McKay Road parking lot that heads toward the Zak preserve. They reported that they will continue to work the trail upkeep from that end.

D. Coastal Rivers has been contacted for maintaining parts of their end from Dodge Point. Rick Nelson will follow up.

3. On-going Projects

A. Boundary Mapping: Joe McSwain offered to conduct a workshop at his house with practice on technique on their property line that abuts the Schmid Preserve. Training will be held in January with the date and time TBD..

B. Invasive Mitigation: Chuck Lubelczyk and his band of volunteers from the University of Southern Maine's Department of Environmental Science and Policy (DESP) centered their work around the Haggett Field and its existing foundations. The pile will be burned this winter in a fun event, date and time TBD. More discussion needs to happen about where to burn the River Link Foundation pile of cut invasives. In the spring, the Advisory Board will decided what next to tackle.

4. Trails

A. The collection boxes are in. Becky will send the 3x5 card-format to Lisa who will Boxes will be installed next spring.

B. 2 Historic site signs have been placed at both mica mines and 2 have been installed in Haggett Field. There are 3 more available for installation.

C. At the gates of Bob Brown Parking Lot and the Old County Road, the no smoking/leave no trace signs have been installed.

5. ENDOWMENT FUND/BUDGET

- A. The endowment Fund is at \$78,025.50 with new donations dribbling in.
- B. Schmid's Balance as of November 15 is \$3,000 in the budget account and "\$1600 in the Savings Account. The latest expenses from the work day projects have not been deducted yet.
- C. Discussion on a position to help Chair Lisa McSwain keep track of the finances was briefly discussed and tabled for the next meeting.
- D. There was discussion on creating a FaceBook page to advertise and promote volunteering, use and giving.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Email Laura any volunteer hours or fill them out yourself on the GOOGLE doc. Which was once again sent out to each member of the Advisory Board.
- D. For the 250th celebration, Becky will contact a man she knows as a Master Builder of Stone walls and foundation. Laura will contact Tom Wessels about his costs for a walking tour and talk. Parking is an issue, so events need to be spaced out throughout the summer/fall, rather than have them all be on one specific weekend. Perhaps there will need to be registration-only events to control the crowds.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.