# FRYEBURG CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

# January 22, 2020

# TOWN OFFICE

## **Meeting Minutes**

1. 7:05 p.m. - Convene and determine attendance for a quorum. Sherri, Abby, Nels and Allison. Quorum determined.
2. Review November Meeting Minutes. Meeting minutes approved
3. Discussion Topics
   1. 2019 Committee Report – Due 2/1

This is for the town report for the town meeting.

* Nels will write about the Town Forest Trails Project and the grant research/writing.
* Abby will write about our Pollinator Initiatives Project and Looking Ahead into 2020/21
* Sherri & Allison will collaborate on our Chestnut Tree Restoration Project and our Speaker Events

Collaboration on this report will be completed via email and Sherri will compile the rough draft of the report and we will finalize through email.

* 1. Town Forest Trail Update –

Nels has passed out copies of the Recon Trail Design, which has now been completed. The forest is flagged and ready for initial cutting. NL has contacted DeDe Frost of the Pequawket Alternative School and they have committed to do the initial cutting to clear the trail. NL will provide direction to the 11 seniors in DeDe’s class.

A challenging part of the project is that we have a trail that skirts the river, yet we do not want to the trail goers to exit the trail via a steep embankment towards the river, causing erosion. The Saco is one of the major features of the trail and will certainly be inviting! The first thing we will do to meet this challenge is have Abby contact Saco River Corridor commission and determine if we need a permit for steps down to the river. This feature will need to be worked into the design, as it is not included.

Also, we have discussed putting out a bid for someone to oversee our team of volunteers and implement the major features in the plan.

* 1. Town-owned Land Inventory and Management –

We should make a map that is slightly more up to date with all town owned land parcels. Find out how they are managed. Ask Katie – pulled off the assessor’s records – Town of Fryeburg is the owner.

Katie says that there may be a map. Airport does not need all the land and this is the richest ecological land. Be involved in this parcel – we pay taxes towards that property.

* 1. Grant Research –

We have decided to concentrate on further funding through NE Grass Roots Environmental Fund, because our project is most closely aligned to their giving initiatives.

* 1. Chestnut Trees –

Allison brought seeds – passed them out and we are going to try to sprout them. Sherri will do a check in with Tom on the grant he is writing with us as partners.

* 1. Pollinator Initiatives –

We need to order the seeds through DOT. Xerxes can match soil with species. Nels will see if NRCS Maine has an associate that would be willing to make recommendations. Abby will find out the deadline for DOT’s order.

* 1. Conservation Speaker Events –

Sherri volunteered to put together a 4 sessions program roster for 2020 in April and May. One for sure is to bring back Amanda Shearin.

* 1. Planning Board Connection –

This connection needs to be strengthened. The next planning board meeting is on the 1/28 @ 6pm.

* 1. Fryeburg Age-Friendly Task Force Volunteer Fair –

Our presence there allowed for networking and introducing folks to what we are doing and we have received 4 names and phone numbers – hopefully some more committee members.

* 1. Budget Request for FY2021 – Also Due 2/1

Abby will get some prices on the trail features and we are approximating that we will require $3400 trail and another $350 for pollinator plantings and events.

* 1. New Business – no new business.

1. Public Forum – Nora suggested another collaboration event to celebrate Earth Day as last year. Cathy has called our meeting impressive.

And more:

Scott Campbell might teach people how to make a bog bridge.

Meeting adjourns at 8:18