

ERC Minutes for July 11, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lauren Jordan, Diane Lamson, Mike Brakey, Kyla Viger, Doug Smith, Nate Reimensnyder, Selectboard liaison Dustin Ward

1. Casco Bay Trail Alliance - ERC members sat in on the presentation and discussion session with the NG Rec Committee. The topic was the potential for a trail on existing non functioning rail tracks that go through New Gloucester.

2. Election of Committee Officers-

Chair: Doug nominated Lauren, seconded by Diane. Unanimous vote yes

Vice-Chair: Lauren nominated Sarah, seconded by Mike, Unanimous vote yes

Secretary: Lauren nominated Diane, seconded by Mike, Unanimous vote yes

3. Approval of June Minutes -Doug motioned to accept minutes as written, seconded by Nate, minutes were unanimously approved with no changes

4.UPDATES:

Parks and Rec Sarah's assistant, Kimberly will attend ERC meetings as she is able

Pollinator Garden Tour Workday Sunday July 21, 9-11am to tidy up for the tour. We missed the deadline for budget requests so will now submit requests to the town under FY25. Lauren will update the plant listing and have them available for the tour.

Community Resilience Partnership Grant Application Lauren and Doug attended the meeting with GPCOG. Moving forward, the Town Manager and Town Planner are invited to participate in future planning sessions. Lauren will reach out to other relevant entities (Sabbathday Lake, RRCT etc) as well. GPCOG is providing the state with a more detailed budget. The State approved the 24 month timeline requested by GPCOG
GPCOG will create a flier specific to the NG CRP Grant application

5. ERC Community Fair Booth (Sept 7) More discussion on possible topics. Most of the ideas were related to Climate Resiliency, Emergency preparedness.

6. Royal River Conservation Trust/ Environmental Education/Lower Village Preserve:

Doug is reaching out to ERC and Parks & Rec Dept on behalf of the RRCT to discuss environmental education possibilities regarding preserved land in NG

7. ERC NGX Articles: Doug wrote an article about the CRP Grant Application process, and will submit another promoting the upcoming garden tour.

NEW BUSINESS

Diane mentioned concerns about the fairground plantings that might be affected by the septic work that is planned there. She will contact the town planner for details.

Diane suggested we find a tree expert, or town forester, to advise ERC on the health and maintenance of the trees planted at the fairgrounds along the fence by the road.

Next meeting date Aug 1 at 5:30pm

Respectively submitted by Diane Lamson, Secretary ERC