

Minutes of Environmental Resources Committee March 3, 2022

Present: Doug Smith, Diane Lamson, Dick Allen, Alicia Howes, Laura Fralich, Lauren Jordan

Meeting called to order at 5:40pm

Minutes of February 2022 were approved with no changes.

Parks & Rec: (Sarah not present)

Sarah reports through Doug that the ERC is included in the next fy budget at \$1000.00. The current balance available for this year is \$800

Lake Association (Dick)

The blasting permit for 2 gravel pits on Pond road was approved

Apparel Impact Bin (Lauren)

After 5 weeks, the bin has collected 250lbs of textile goods. We are below the 3% threshold for unusable items by weight. Lauren sent information for an article to the Lakes Region weekly and the NGX website to continue efforts to get the word out to the public.

Town Solar (Lauren)

Sarah is still gathering town energy bills for the purpose of assessing town needs. Doug will reach out to members of the Gray Town Council to get information regarding the Gray Solar program

Composting Project (Lauren)

Survey results: 17 yes they would purchase bin, 11 need more info. Maine Recovery Resource Assoc. confirms the cost to ERC for the bins is \$55 with a minimum order of 20 bins. The committee agreed to limit products offered to compost bins only for this year, with the possibility of offering other products at discounts next year (suc as rain barrels) A motion was passed to buy 30 bins, charge the public \$35 each, with the balance of \$20 subsidized by the ERC. Lauren will share that information with the people who responded to the survey MRA will deliver to only one drop off location. Lauren will consult the town on a possible location for delivery and distribution

Invasive Plant Presentation (Alicia)

A presentation by HIPP (Harpwell Invasive Plant Project) is scheduled for Thursday, March 10 at the meeting house. The public has been notified via NGX that they are welcome to attend in person or online.

Lower Village Project with RRCT and Community Group (Doug)

No new information to report.

Brown Tail Moth: LD1929 would provide funding to train and assist with addressing nests

Seed Giveaway: Suggestion was made to combine this event with an upcoming workshop offered at the library. Alicia will contact Joanne McKee regarding ordering seed packets

Climate Action/Resilience Partnership (Rachel Lyn Rumson guest presentation)

Rachel discussed Regenerative Design, Joining a Community Resilience Partnership eligible for grant money funded by the State, the process for grant applications, and her outline of a 9 month process from letters of support to a final month 'wrap up'. The ERC committee will discuss moving forward, and make a decision at the April meeting as to whether or not to commit to Rachel as Service Provider.

Next meeting date April 7, 2022 at 5:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm

Respectively submitted by Diane Lamson, Secretary ERC