

## Minutes of the Environmental Resource Committee Jan 14, 2021

Present: Sarah Rodriguez, Alicia Howes,, Lauren Jordan, Tony Hodgdon, Dick Allen, Diane Aromando, Joanne McKee

The meeting came to order at 6 pm. via Zoom.

The minutes from the November 2020 meeting were approved.

### Parks and Recreation:

After review by the Town manager, Sarah said that our budget for 2021-2022 was cut from \$2000 to \$1000. Sarah said the \$800 for the workshops needs to be justified if we wish to ask for this amount. If we can find some workshops for the budget year (2021-2022) with their costs, Sarah will ask for an increase to the \$1000. The Parks and Rec budget will to the Selectmen the week of Jan 25 and Sarah will let us know of the exact date. Any information found should be sent to us as well as Sarah asp.

Members were asked to look for workshops and were each given a site to check. Since the workshops would be for after June 30, 2021, there may not be much information posted at this time. Perhaps the Selectmen would consider funding some projects, especially since members need to educate themselves on some of the items that this committee is overseeing in the updated town plan.

Sabbathday Lake Association: Dick Allen was told of two possible grants for dealing with runoff problems at the Lake. He will give this information to the Association.

### Public education:

Lauren posted information about trail use on the NGXchange and was thanked for her work. She will ask the NGXchange to add that the ERC was responsible for this report.

Alicia will on report several ways to compost (lasagna composting, winter composting, extending the gardening season, etc.)

Tony will look into updating information for recycling at the transfer station and other places in town and update as need the list of places that were given for the Reuse, Recycle, Donate flier.

The distribution of the seed project from last year was tabled until the next meeting. Sarah will look for the poster that Diane and Morgan did on the rec computer. All information is ready to go for this project except for printing the information and obtaining some soil testing kits. Joanne will check with the RI Master Gardeners to see if more seeds will be available.

Joanne has signed up for a virtual workshop titled 'A Walk in the Woods: Winter Tree Pest and Disease Scouting and Management' at the Agricultural Trade Show for Friday Jan. 22 at 9:45-1045.

Lower Village Project: RRCT is working to close the purchase of the 180 acres. Some additional land owned by CMP behind the Grange Hall may be available and could possibly be used as a parking lot for the trails. We may ask the town to accept it as conservation land, separate from the RRCT project. DEP will visit the proposed ball field areas. Doug and Steve Libby will see what the development and environmental issues are. Plans for the entire area will go to the public for input and suggestions for use.

Stevens Brook Project: No new information.

Recycling Resolution: Doug sent this to the Town Manager last week and is waiting for a response. He will follow up with her.

Because of issues with the use of Zoom (we got kicked off when a new meeting was about to start), we will consider starting the meeting at 5 instead of 6. Sarah will check with Sharlene. The tentative next meeting date is Thursday Feb.4 at 5 pm.

Respectively submitted,  
Joanne McKee, Secretary  
Acting Chair