

Minutes of the Environmental Resource Committee April 11, 2019

Present: Douglas Smith, Phoebe Hardesty, Dick Allen, Cliff Andrews, Tony Hodgdon, Trudy Hodgdon, Jim Fitch, Morgan Rocheleau, Scott Hastings, Joanne McKee

The meeting came to order at 9:00 am. Minutes from the last meeting were approved as written.

The committee continued with the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan. Doug and Jim reviewed some of the present ordinances with references to the environment. After much discussion a plan of action was established for the next meeting.

We are to review the present plan and ordinances to establish if they are still appropriate, make comments and recommendations for any changes, items that are missing, and identify areas at risk in relation to the environment.

Doug will provide us with a summary of the reviews that he and Jim have already done and we can add to these either at the next meeting or via email to the members.

It is important to note that the ERC will be the group that oversees and advises the environmental parts of the new plan and does not necessarily implement it.

Fees for use of town facilities: a procedure and schedule is still being developed. Fees do not apply for town residents for use of most facilities.

Sabbathday Lake Shores: approval has been given for one dock that the developer must submit a plan for before final approval is granted. There is no clear definition of "passive to active recreation". Dick will ask Sabbathday Lake Association for feedback.

Treasure's report: Dick will update the amount of money available with Lori Ann, town treasurer.

Educational displays: May 1 at 10 am the display on invasive plants will be assembled in the Library. Information for handouts has been printed and Joanne will post information on the New Gloucester Exchange web site.

Possible passenger rail routes through New Gloucester were quickly discussed but this may be a long time coming as it is only in the planning stages at this point.

Fairground plantings: Plants have been delivered from Fedco. Before they can be planted, the area must be cleared and prepared. The handicapped ramp should also be completed so that some of the plantings can go on the sides of the ramp as a wind barrier and screen. Joanne will contact Ted Shane for information on when the ramp will be installed. Dick will contact the student group at the high school for help in clearing the area, possibly Sat. May 4th with alternate dates May 11, and May 18th.

The community fair will be held August 17th at the fairgrounds and Dick will ask Morgan if we can have a display table there with information about the environment.

Because of a conflict at the library, our next meeting on May 9th will be in the Community Building at 10:30 instead of 10. Doug will notify the appropriate people.

No information was available on the road construction project by Stevens Brook. It was noted that Beverly Cadigan now owns the area around the pond and the pond.

Scott distributed some of the pertinent maps to us.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Joanne McKee, Secretary