

Minutes
Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee
March 21, 2024

In attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Tim Rapczynski, Janette Shaffer, Jim Deshler, Marc Cote, Mark Martin, Susan McDowell

Guests: Steve Mackenzie

1. Call to Order: 5:43 pm

2. Adjustments to Agenda: If time allows: Open Meeting Law Bill S-55 (Janette). Green-up after the Eclipse. Central Vt Career Center partnership.

3. Agenda Items:

Communication Agreement & Mission Statement – Reading

Approval of Minutes- January 18, 2024. All in favor motion passes.

Advisory Groups:

Conservation & Access: Committee reviewed/discussed proposal and offered minor revisions for consideration.

Invasive Plant Control: Committee reviewed/discussed proposal and offered minor revisions for consideration. The group will consider including all invasives contingent upon availability of another volunteer with expertise. Motion: Advisory Groups will finalize and share revised proposals prior to the May 16, 2024 Meeting for final approval. Groups may work on goals and initiatives prior to that Meeting. Moved -Chris. Seconded- Janette. All in favor-motion passes.

ERSA Grant:

Ford Property: Appraisal came in higher than the asking price 3 years ago. Offer was made to Marylyn Ford and was accepted. Five-thousand-dollar line-item exceedance will be taken from the Hazardous Tree removal line item. The Purchase and Sales Agreement was discussed with the City Attorney on February 15th.

RFP for trail, bridge and Trail Assessment: RFP was posted and Apex TrailWorks bid was accepted. Work is anticipated to be completed this summer.

Tools: Jim will proceed with the purchase of the trail tools outlined in the ERSA Grant.

ERSA Sub-Committee: The sub-committee will draft a contract for Apex Trailworks and will be proactive in assisting the City in obtaining a State permit for the construction of the bridge, if required.

Green-Up Day:

May 4, 2024: Incorrect date was listed on the agenda. Discussed moving the Cow Pasture Green-up to a different date so that the Committee is not competing with other efforts. The Invasive Advisory Group (Susan and Tim) will coordinate Green-Up Day efforts, decide on a date and assess whether there is a need to Green-up after the eclipse.

Central Vermont Career Center Partnership- Stephanie Olsen- Instructor of the Exploratory Science curriculum contacted the Committee to co-ordinate, for the third year, working on the property with her class to educate on invasive plants and appropriate removal. The Committee is appreciative of the work that is accomplished in this partnership. The Invasive Plant Control Advisory Group will communicate and with Stephanie and co-ordinate a time that works for Stephanie. Motion to spend a maximum of \$50.00 of the Semperbon Fund to order pizza for the class. Moved: Chris- Seconded: Mark. All in favor-motion passes.

Updates (if any): .

- No Yard Waste Signs: Sheridan-Quinlan (no update).
- Council Presentation (no update)
- Fenced Enclosure (no update)
- Property survey (no update)
- Hunting/trapping within City limits (no update)

4. Adjourn: Motion to Adjourn at 7:00 (Tim). All in favor.