

## **Minutes Cow Pasture Committee**

Thursday –May 16, 2019

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

*In Attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Mike Perrigo, Mark Martin, and Sharon Lunde*

*Non- Committee Members in Attendance: Bill Ahearn, Ken Lunde, and Philip Stevens*

1. Call to order: 5:40 pm
2. Adjustments to Agenda: Chris – Need for a Committee Communication Policy –
3. Approval of minutes (3-21-2019)-Approve at the July Meeting. Moved: Seconded.
4. Agenda Items:

### **Updates:**

- Land Conservation Fact Sheet- Shared with request for comments.
- Green-up Day- Twelve (at least) volunteers assisted. Ken Benton- North Branch Nature Center)- led a walk and provided assistance and education on invasive removal. Primary focus was invasive removal and removal of Pine trees in the restored meadow.
- Fabio Balenzano went before the Council in April and is now a Committee Member.

### **Cow Pasture Entrance:**

- Bill Ahearn-Public Works Director attended Meeting. Group concurred with Plans to remove guardrails place 4-5 large stones (ones that are less likely to fracture) to each side of the current opening. The placement will be situated so that walkers are directed toward the kiosk. Bollards will not be installed, however Bill recommend the placement of smaller boulders that will restrict 4 wheel vehicles from entering ...and can be pushed aside if emergency vehicles or the brush hog needs to enter the property. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in the beginning of June and Bill welcomes a Committee member to be at the entrance when boulders are placed.
- Sumac and Ash trees will be removed and Cherry trees will remain. Low hanging box elder will be removed as well as a limb hanging over the parking area.
- Bill raised awareness of the potential for future loss of parking due to the potential development of a lot at the end of Maplewood. The road way to the lot will take nearly all of the parking spaces

### **Land Conservation:**

- Mark Martin and Mike Fraysier (Sub-Committee Members) provided a Land Conservation Fact sheet for Committee review. They will be Meeting in the near future to discuss next steps

### **City Ordinances for Conservation Zone:**

- City Ordinances -Conservation Zone-: Mark rescinds offer to provide recommendations. This task is in need of a volunteer.

### **YYCC 2019 Projects:**

- Projects discussed. A meeting was scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> ,7-9 a.m.with VYCC crew Leader -Keith Warner. Members were invited to attend. Summary of Projects/Discussions will be provided by Chris

### **Communication Policy:**

- Tim proposed that the Committee establish a communication policy that will guide us in maintaining respectful and productive communication. It was agreed that a policy would be helpful. The item will be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

### **VAST Connector Trail:**

- Discussion on partnering with Sno-Bees postponed.

### **Council Paper Street discussion:**

- Paper Streets are important greenways within the City. There are several that provide access to the Cow Pasture trails and encourage people to walk to the Pasture rather than drive to the Maplewood Ave. entrance., thus reducing the need for additional parking and reducing traffic in the neighborhood. The Committee's position is that they should be preserved and not leased or sold.

### **Vacant Positions:**

- Fund raising Coordinator/Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator, and Natural Resource Manager.

### **Future Agenda Items:**

- Communication Policy
  - Hunting incident follow-up
  - Cow Pasture logo
  - City signs identifying trail entrances.
  - Replacing Maps – Map Revision to reflect rerouted trail.
  - City Leash Law/Dog etiquette guidelines –Draft electronically submitted by Maura 7-17-18. Will be discussed after ordinance is changed.
  - Coordinate with Amanda Garland (Barre Tech.) to identify potential projects that may include invasive species guide or tree ID
5. Adjourn 6:50 p.m. Chris - Motion to adjourn. Mike 2<sup>nd</sup> . Passed

### **2019 Meeting Schedule:**

July 16, 2019

September 17, 2019

November 19, 2019

Time: 5:30 –6:30 p.m.

**Meeting Location: City Hall- Council Chambers**

### **Important Dates/Meetings:**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> – July 5th, VYCC Work Days**