

SHAPLEIGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

September 14, 2020

Attending: Chuck Desmond, Susie Marcoux, Carol Boothby, Madge Baker and David Mann

Meeting called to order at 7:08 by Committee Chair Chuck Desmond.

Wildlife sightings:

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report for August 17, 2020 were approved as written.

Correspondence: Maine Department of Environmental Protection sent two notices: They have money earmarked for the replacement of failing culverts over brooks and (2) the Maine DEP is sponsoring a program to collect and dispose of obsolete pesticides. Advanced registration is required and the nearest drop off point is Portland. Check the Maine DEP web site.

Newspaper/Publication items of interest:

Treasurer's report: Committee's coffers contain \$115.00.

Trail: Chuck did not hear from the ASYCC this summer and therefore they did not do any trail maintenance in the Town Forest.

David reported that he walked the trail to assess maintenance needs. There are no problems in the section from Route 11 south to Great Hollow Road. In the section between Great Hollow Road and Town Farm Road, there are a few branches on the trail but nothing significant. Madge offered to place two directional signs at the point where the trail splits (main trail continues north to Great Hollow Road and a branch trail heads south to the Boston Cemetery). The third section of the trail from Town Farm Road south to the Town Beach needs the most attention. There is one blowdown (red maple) that will require a chainsaw and several points where tree sprouts from the stumps of recently harvested timber is obscuring the trail itself or in two places is actually hiding trail blazes.

Town Forest: The committee will work on the conservation trail in the Town Forest on Wednesday morning, September 23, 2020 at 10:00 am. Bring your own tools.

Planning Board: Madge reported that applications for Growth Permits (both new houses and the conversion of seasonal camps to year-round homes) is higher than the recent past (over 20 permits have been approved with a maximum of 33 allowed in one year). Planning Board approved a subdivision on the Gulf Road. They are still working on the permit to use the former Gruber Barn as a Wedding Venue.

Appeals Board: Nothing to report

Three Rivers Land Trust: It's the season for completing this year's monitoring reports.

Williams Property: Carol and Susie reported that the fields have been mowed and the downed trees from the tropical storm have been cleared out. A fire was started beyond the storage building and

people have used the parking lot for "clandestine meetups". A notice was placed on Facebook to alert the public to keep an eye on the place.

New Business: Committee agreed to meet on September 23rd at 10:00 am to clean up the Nature Trail in the Town Forest.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectively submitted by David Mann