

Shapleigh Conservation Committee

February 22, 2021

Attending: Chuck Desmond, Susan Baker, Susie Marcoux and David Mann attended on a very snowy night. All committee members were masked.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Committee Chair, Chuck Desmond.

Wildlife sightings: Two eagles with crows in pursuit, lots of rabbit tracks and Barred owl screeches.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report for January 11, 2021 were approved as written.

Correspondence: February 22-26 is National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Maine is particularly concerned about browntail moth winter web and the emerald ash borer.

During this past year, attendance at Maine State Parks topped over three million visitor-days exceeding all previous records.

Newspaper/Publication items of interest:

Treasurer's report:

Trail: Susan reported that the Town Farm Trail is "snowshoeable" and that there are two large, downed trees (one is across the trail) that need to be removed.

Town Forest:

Planning Board: Nothing to report

Appeals Board: Nothing to report

Three Rivers Land Trust: The land trust is in the process of buying a 570-acre parcel consisting of forests and wetlands on the north side of Oak Street (Route 11A) in Springvale which will eventually be known as Sanford Community Forest. Funding for the first \$600,000 of the total \$780,000 has been identified and the land trust is actively working on raising the final \$180,000 to complete the deal.

The committee reviewed the Pine Tree Amendment. The land trust is lobbying the State legislature to adopt this statement which asks that the state and its agencies to protect the state's natural environment. Madge is writing Maine State Senator, Dave Woodsome, to gain his support for adoption.

Williams Property: Susan reported that the Williams Property looks good.

New Business: Susie reported that Shapleigh has a new "inclusive" scouting group which will be looking for projects. Her nephew is the troop leader.

Susan is the Shapleigh Conservation Committee liaison to the YCSWC district steering committee overseeing the implementation of a grant to prevent "runoff" from properties surrounding Square Pond

from entering the lake. Ten Camps on Treasure Island with potential erosion issues have agreed to participate. Volunteer hours and work done by ASYCC will help offset part of the local funding requirement of the grant.

At our next meeting, Madge will present some ideas for climate change projects that the Conservation Committee could consider adopting.

The next meeting will be March 8, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectively submitted by David Mann