

Town of Otisfield

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Otisfield Conservation Committee Minutes March 29, 2022

Members present: Jen Blastow, Lee Dassler, Chloe Grover, Maureen Mooney-Howard, Kristin Roy, Mike Thorne

Meeting called to order at 7:10

We welcomed our three new members – Jen, Chloe and Mike. Jen and Chloe have been members for a year but we have not had a meeting due to the pandemic. Mike is a new member recently approved by the selectmen.

Motion made to accept minutes of March 25, 2020; minutes approved

Maureen asked for a volunteer to fill our secretary position as Kristin has filled this position for a few years and would like to hand over the note taking. Jen Blastow volunteered to become secretary. Thank you Kristin and thank you, Jen.

Old Business:

Twin Bridges Trails update:

• Lee told us about a new trial system off of Route 117 across from Twin Bridges. WFLT volunteers will be working on the new trail and work has begun on the entrance trail named "Four Brothers Trail".

Possible new program:

• Marygrace Barber is a graduate of Maine Master Naturalist Program and summer resident in Camp Truda. In the past she has been willing to provide informational walks about wildflowers, trees, ferns, birds, etc. If we decide this is something the Committee is interested in, Maureen will meet with her and find out if she is still interested.

Heniger Park and Two Ponds Nature Areas update:

• Maureen reported that all the lids to the brochure holders have either fallen off or been taken off. Some are gone and some were on the ground. Not very impressive if they have fallen off as each holder cost \$31. Also not very impressive if they have been vandalized.

New Business:

- Our Committee town report page was due recently and Maureen has submitted it.
- 2022 Roadside Clean-Up will be held on May 7th with a rain date of May 14th. This will be the first "in person" clean-up since 2019. We will meet at the Community Hall

at 8:45. Maureen asked the Board to volunteer that day. The Community Lunch Group (Frank Blauvault and Ginny Noble) have agreed to provide lunch. Maureen has contacted our new Recreation Director, Molly Bielby, to see if she wants to organize a town beach clean-up on the same day. It turns out that the selectmen now pay for someone to clean our beach.

• Vernal Pool visit by OCS 6th grade class – the last "in person" visit was in 2018 due to the pandemic and also a stricter school board policy regulating students around bodies of water. Jen volunteered to coordinate with the school. Maureen will call Alanna Yannelli (LEA Education Director) to see if she is available to talk to the class and accompany them to the vernal pool. Lee mentioned that Sarah King (WFLT) might be a possible backup if needed.

Other Business:

The meeting was adjourned 8:15 p.m. Next meeting is May 31, 2022