

Pownal Conservation Committee

MARCH 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Matt Welch, Derek Lovitch, Sherry Dietrich, Ruth Hannan and guest Theresa Kelly who is a Pownal resident

The minutes of the January 27th meeting were read and accepted. Also read and accepted was a letter addressed to the Maine Association of Conservation Committees (MEACC).

Old Business:

Matt reviewed some of the info about MEACC: It has a yearly membership (July 1st thru June 30th). MEACC is currently applying for grants for local conservation committees to work on trail development.

Matt received a reply from our letter to the Pownal Scenic and Historical Society (PSHS). RE: the possible sale of the town-owned property (Map 6 Lot 67). The PSHS met and their executive committee stated that they have no objection regarding this property based on historical value. They do have some other objections. Sherry will be meeting with the Planning Board and will ask them their opinion. Sherry mentioned that Selectman Tim Giddinge said that he might have this topic added to the Town Meeting warrant.

Our committee would like a response from the Selectmen regarding Map 6 Lot 67. Derek wrote up a brief note addressed to the Selectmen. We read and accepted the note as Derek wrote it.

~~Derek~~ will send it to the Selectmen.

MATT

We discussed a display board for the "Feathers Over Freeport" event (to be held on April 26th). It was mentioned that it could be useful for other events in the future as well. Some general ideas of the cost were discussed. E.g. For 24x36 paper, the cost would be approx. \$41.99 plus \$30 to mount it. Foam board, either flat or a 3-panel table display are possibilities. There was a motion to allow Derek to spend up to \$50 on materials. This motion passed.

Matt will purchase a "puller bear" to make pulling out honeysuckle bushes easier.

April 19th will be a volunteer work day for removing honeysuckle bushes from town-owned land, similar to last year. Matt has arranged for donuts. We decided to focus on pulling bushes and to deal with burning the pile at a later date. Matt will contact Shawn Bennett, the Road Commissioner, regarding the pile to be left at a cleared landing on the property.

New business:

Theresa Kelly told us that she is interested in learning more about Pownal's town-owned properties. She would like to see some land used for farming, to generate food and create jobs for local people. Theresa's contact info is: 688-4078 TAKOSAN@MAINE.RR.COM.

Regarding the historic mill site near Hodsdon Road, Sherry says that a 1-acre parcel across from the river is up for sale. If the town purchased the property, there might be a historic marker placed there. The property owner has suggested the possibility of a land swap. The Recreation

Committee is looking into town-owned land that could be swapped. Sherry will continue a dialog with them.

Note that our April meeting is scheduled for 4/21 (rather than the 4th Monday of the month) so that it is before the "Feathers Over Freeport" event.

The agenda for the meeting is to review the info display put together by Derek.

Respectively submitted,
Ruth Hannan

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RH' or similar initials, written over the printed name 'Ruth Hannan'.