

Minutes Cow Pasture Committee

Tuesday –July 17, 2018

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Alex Pastor, Mike Perrigo, Mark Martin, Ken Benton

Non- Committee Members in Attendance: Tim Rapezynski

1. Call to order: 5:37 pm
2. Adjustments to Agenda: Emerald Ash Borer, Conservation and Acquisition of Abutting Lands
3. Approval of minutes (3-20-2018 & 5-15-2018)–Moved: Alex, Seconded Ken. Motion passes.
Note: The date of the March 20, 2018 meeting was incorrectly noted in the minutes as March 30, 2018.
4. Agenda Items:

Committee Membership:

- Tim Rapezynski expressed interest in becoming a member in early June and attended the July 17th Meeting. He will write a brief letter of interest and attend a Council Meeting to be appointed. Tim expressed interest in creating a Social Media presence and an interest in coordinating with volunteer groups. He also suggested that the City create signs to be added to existing street sign poles that provide direction to the Cow Pasture entrance.
- On June 20th Nick Landry provided the Committee Chair with a list of three individuals that responded to a survey and expressed interest in joining the Committee. He also asked that I contact him prior to reaching out to the individuals. The City's desire is to keep Committee sizes at a manageable level and encourage citizens to consider joining other committees that need members if Committees are full. Committee Chair has not been able to connect with Nick to discuss desired Committee size.
- The Committee thought the current size was manageable and discussed having a group of "Friends of the Pasture". This will be discussed with Nick.

Updates:

- Snowmobile access from Quinlan- Mike Perrigo will verify that
- Individual requesting access from Quinlan is a VAST member which is a requirement for riding VAST trails. Registration is also required. Membership is renewed each year.
- Mike mentioned that problems with snow machines should be brought to the attention of the Washington County Sheriff _ Brett Myers. Mike will provide contact information. Chris will update members contact information list and add contact information for partners.

VYCC 2018 Projects:

- Ken identified three priority projects: Meadow reclamation, waterbar installation by lower stream crossings (both sides of stream) and repair of the gate. If time allows removal of asiatic bittersweet will be done.
- Ken Benton, Mike Perrigo, Chris Russo, Steve Mackenzie and Bill Ahearn met with VYCC Crew leaders (Ken and Jessie) and explained the projects. Ken will flag off the areas that need to be cleared. Mike provided recommendations on the widening of the gate to allow passage of the groomer.
- Ken will be the Committee contact the week of July 23rd and Alex will be the contact the week of August 30th

- Public Outreach to inform Pasture users of upcoming work and provide information on the upper meadow restoration will include:
Chris- Talk of the Town and Front Porch Forum
Tim- sign at Kiosk
Alex – will contact Dave Delcore

Cow Pasture entrance:

- Bill Ahearn will coordinate project.
- Guardrails will be removed and large boulders will be aesthetically placed to create a natural looking barrier that will narrow the access to prevent unauthorized vehicles.
- Removable bollards will be installed in an opening that is large enough to allow passage of emergency 4- wheel vehicles and maintenance equipment. (15' opening desired). Bollards will be enclosed in wood to make them aesthetically pleasing.

Civilian Bike Patrol:

- Chris has left messages with Officer Flurry regarding the Committees desire to have the patrol in the Pasture again this summer and offered to meet with patrol to present maps and discuss issues we have had in past years and trouble spots (spring site). No response as of 7-19-2018.

Adjustments to Agenda:

- Emerald Ash Borer- Alex will find out if the City Tree Warden (Jeff Bergeron) attended informational meeting. Identifying Ash on the Pasture property, monitoring and having an action plan for prompt removal of infested trees would be desirable. Trees are week wooded once infested.
- Conservation Priorities of abutting lands- Chris recommended that a Sub-Committee be formed that could meet and periodically Report to the Committee. To be discussed at the next Meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

- City Ordinances
- Sub-Committee- Conservation Priorities
- Quinlan Drive –VAST connector trail.
- Replacing Maps – Map Revision to reflect rerouted trail. Signs within the City pointing to Pasture.
- City Leash Law/Dog etiquette guidelines –Draft electronically submitted by Maura 7-17-18. Will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Coordinate with Amanda Garland (Barre Tech.) to identify potential projects that may include invasive species guide or tree ID
- Vacant positions: Fundraising Coordinator /Treasurer, Volunteer Coordinator

5. Adjourn 6:40 p.m. Mark- Motion to adjourn. Passed

Meeting Schedule:

September 18, 2018

November 20, 2018

Time: 5:30 –6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: City Hall- Conference Room

Important Dates/Meetings: