

Minutes Cow Pasture Committee

Tuesday –September 18, 2018

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Mike Perrigo, Mark Martin, Ken Benton, Tim Rapezynski, Sharon Lunde, Maura Quinn

Non- Committee Members in Attendance: Ken Lunde

1. Call to order: 5:32 pm
2. Adjustments to Agenda: None
3. Approval of minutes (7-17-2018)–Moved: Ken, Seconded: Maura. Motion passes.
4. Agenda Items:

Updates:

- VYCC 2018 Projects: Ken will complete a survey provided by the VYCC and provide an assessment of the work completed. There were three primary projects that Ken discussed with the two crew leaders in a 2+ hour walk in the Pasture prior to the initiation of work.
Meadow reclamation- Large invasive shrubs removed but were not piled near tree line at the site as instructed. Crew carried the material out of the pasture to the entrance. City crew had to remove using a 1 ton pick-up.
Waterbar installation by lower stream crossings- Waterbars were *not* installed in the critical areas as instructed by Ken. Water-bars in the path leading to the stream that was restored in 2017 by a VYCC crew were dug wider and deeper reaching the gravel that was placed under the fill for sub-surface drainage. The depth and width of the water-bars are not appropriate for the trail. This work was not requested and the 2017 restoration work was undermined and will need to be restored to make the path safe and function as originally designed.
Gate repair – Gate is now wide enough for the groomer but the quality of the work is not satisfactory.
- Brush Hogging: Don Dexter will be brush hogging. Ken has been in touch with Bill Ahearn and has checked the flagging.
- Civilian Bike Patrol: Police Dept .did not respond call with an offer to meet with the Civilian Bike Patrol and provide maps and identify areas that should be patrolled. Members did see the patrol in the Pasture but frequency and route of the patrol is unknown.
- Cow Pasture entrance improvements: Chris will follow-up on status.
- Committee Membership: All current members would like to remain members. Committee members support recruiting “Friends of the Pasture’. Chris will contact the three individuals that expressed interest in the Committee and find out if they would like to be a ‘Friend’. An email distribution list will be created and ‘Friends’ will be contacted to help with projects and provide support to the Committee.
- City Tree Warden – Emerald Ash Borer. Alex was not at the meeting to provide an update. Committee is interested in learning if the City Tree Warden (Jeff Bergeron) attended informational meeting offered by the State. 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.

City Ordinances: Chris will ask Alex if she is willing to draft revisions to existing ordinances that are pertinent to the Pasture for Committee review and comment. Alex has already identified Sections of the current ordinances that may need revision to address the new Conservation Zone.

Conservation Priorities: A sub-Committee to identify conservation priorities and investigate options was discussed. Mark Martin is considering chairing the sub-committee. Joining the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions to allow the Committee to apply for Tiny Grant Awards in the spring was tabled – No interest at this time.

Social Media: Tim provided the Committee with an overview of options. Educational outreach will be the primary focus but will also serve as a forum for requesting assistance to help with projects and advertising events. Facebook is primarily for information and Instagram can be used for pictures. Initial outreach ideas were: a contest for a Cow Pasture logo and Tags to 'Better Barre' initiatives.

2018 Annual Report: Submit to Judy Norway by Nov 30, 2018. Chris will provide draft Prior to the November Meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

- Quinlan Drive –VAST connector trail.- Update
- 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 6:45 p.m. Ken - Motion to adjourn. Passed

Meeting Schedule:

November 20, 2018

Time: 5:30 –6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: City Hall- Conference Room

Important Dates/Meetings: