

Minutes
Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee
September 7, 2023

In attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Tim Rapczynski, Jim Deshler, Marc Cote, Susan McDowell.

Guests: Mark Martin (in person). James Williams (virtual).

1. **Call to order:** 5:42 p.m.

2. **Adjustments to Agenda:**

Correction of Agenda to reflect the correct date of Minutes to be approved (May 18, 2023).

Request for a discussion on posting signs on the Pasture property regarding hunting.

Acknowledgement of work completed by Committee Members to disassemble a stone dam built in the stream.

3. **Agenda Items:**

Approval of Minutes- May 18, 2023. All in favor -motion passes.

SnoBees:

Spending of the \$25.00 gift certificate from the SnoBees at RK Miles for a tool with additional funds from the Semperbon account (if needed) was moved by Tim and seconded by Jim. All in favor- motion passes.

2023-2024 City Approval for trail use and actions needed were discussed. Marc Cote will complete the Land Owner Approval form with attachments (list of conditions and City & SnoBee contacts) and request to be on a Council Agenda for City approval. Marc will update the SnoBee contact list if necessary and Chris will update the City's contact list. Marc will provide the Committee with an electronic copy of the SnoBee contact list.

Marc will discuss required signage with Greg Rouleau (15 MPH, Sensitive Zone and Slow signs previously agreed to) and determine who is responsible for posting the Cow Pasture property. Marc will open the gate and secure the section that does not have a chain.

Greg Rouleau inspected the route after the storm and reported the connector trail in good condition but noted a stone in the stream. The stone mysteriously appeared this summer and has a low profile and should not be an issue for the groomer. No action needed.

Marc will ask Greg if trail work is necessary and request that the Committee be contacted for approval of work.

Committee Member Fall Appointment: Marc Martin (prior Committee Member) has submitted a letter of interest. His expertise will be an asset to the Committee. Appointments are anticipated on September 19, 2023.

Posting on Hunting Season: Signs from last year will be re-posted. The sign states: *'WARNING! Hunting is not allowed in the City. Adjoining private properties in Barre Town allow hunting. Bright orange attire is recommended for you and your pet.'* One sign will be posted at the entrance and one on the main trail entering the Hood Barre Town property.

Steam Restoration: Mark Martin notified the Committee of a large dam that was built in the stream by the spring. Mark Martin, 4 Committee Members (Susan, Janette, Jim, and Tim) and 1 Community Member disassembled the structure and restored the stream. The removal of the structure was a major undertaking.

Updates (If any):

- **'No Yard Waste' Signs** at Sheridan - Quinlan entrance. ANR Atlas shows the parcel is privately owned and is not City property. Chris will attempt to contact the owner to ask if he is the one dumping yard waste and discuss invasive plants. The owner lives at the end of Sheridan.
- **ERSA Grant Status.** The City has *NOT* received the finalized Grant as we had been told and is at risk of losing the Grant. The City is not in good standing with ANR due to 2 WW violations that must be resolved to ANR's satisfaction before the Grant can be issued. Nicolas reported on 9-7-2023 that the City is talking to the State and there are no updates on the status of the Grant. He hopes the issue will be resolved soon. Janet Shatney is having difficulty engaging an Appraiser. Mark will contact a known appraiser and ask about availability. Janet has not responded to questions regarding finalizing the RFP for trail work.
- **Johnson Paper Street:** A copy of the License Agreement issued March 20, 2013 was provided by Carol Dawes. There's no record of a payment in March of 2023. A 10-year agreement with a fee of \$600.00/10 years was established. The lease agreement allows assignment of the lease to new owners. Carol did not see any reference to the lease in either of the two subsequent deeds, transferring the property from the Friots to the Meaghers in 2018, and from Meaghers to the Hood/Youngs in 2021. The Agreement should have been referenced in the deeds according to Carol. The Licensee is required to carry Comprehensive Liability Insurance for the license specified amount for the parcel and provide the Licensor with a certificate of insurance. Chris will follow up with Nicolas.
- **T-shirts:** No update.
- **Council Presentation:** No update.
- **Fenced Enclosure Clean-up:** No update.
- **Property Survey:** No update.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. Tim. Seconded – Jim. All in favor. Motion passes

Important Dates:

Upcoming Committee Meetings

November 16, 2023