

TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Board of Selectmen
The Preserve Ad Hoc Committee

Susan Esty
Chris Cryder
Kathleen Connolly

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Judy Preston
Liz Swenson
Tom ODell
Kacey Constable

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday, September 28, 2017
6:00 – 7:30 P.M.
PARKS & RECREATION CENTER
308 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ray Allen called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present

Chris Cryder
Judy Preston
Liz Swenson (arrived at 6:34 p.m.)
Susan Esty
Kacey Constable

Members Absent

Tom ODell
Kathy Connolly

Town Hall Staff Present

Ray Allen, Director of Parks and Recreation
Gillian Carroll, Environmental Planner
Kathleen King, Recording Clerk

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

<p><u>MOTION</u> to approve the minutes from the Board of Selectmen's Preserve Ad-Hoc Committee Special Meeting of July 27, 2017 as presented. <u>MADE</u> by S. Esty; <u>SECONDED</u> by L. Swenson; <u>VOTED IN FAVOR:</u> J. Preston, S. Esty, K. Constable, L. Swenson, C. Cryder; <u>OPPOSED:</u> None; <u>ABSTAINED:</u> None; <u>APPROVED:</u> 5-0-0.</p>

IV. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

There were no guests in attendance.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on Interim Trails

C. Cryder said he has not yet heard back from William Hochholzer, Forest Supervisor, DEEP Forestry about linking the parking lot to the yellow trail system, so he doesn't know yet what to do about marking those trails.

The Trust for Public Land will be creating the new maps using Tom Nosal's data.

The State of CT will be providing a state sign, but at this point The Preserve hasn't been officially named.

He asked if there would be some sort of official opening ceremony.

K. Connolly attended the CMC (Conservation Management Committee) meeting which is Carl Fortuna, First Selectman, and W. Hochholzer. There are no minutes at those meeting. They were going to discuss the 2 boardwalks that are in need of repair because of rotting wood. The boy scouts have fixed many of the bridges as projects. C. Cryder is hoping they will work on these 2 bridges as well.

C. Cryder announced that there will be a public hike on Saturday, November 18, 2017, in Great Cedars West being hosted by Parks & Recreation and the Old Saybrook Land Trust.

C. Cryder suggested we invite key people from the mountain biking groups to the October meeting to give them an update on what this Committee has been doing and to do some collaborative planning. He asked R. Allen to make this an agenda item. He also asked J. Preston if she could possibly bring any pictures of the new species that have been found.

B. Update on Winter Weed Treatment

Freddie Castro was hired to do some more cutting by the bog.

C. RFP (Request for Proposal) Update

Honor Lawlor from the Trust for Public Land sent R. Allen an email today with a status update on the RFP and her conversation with the CMC. It is moving forward. She is working with the CMC.

D. Committee Updates

J. Preston said Bill Moorhead has been down quite a bit working on the bio-assessment, and he's making a lot of progress. It's going very well. He's finding a lot of biodiversity.

E. Any Other Old Business

S. Esty asked about the public survey that was discussed at the 7/27/17 meeting with W. Hochholzer. R. Allen explained that the survey is part of the RFP, and it can't be done until the RFP has been completed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Parking Lots Update (Ingham Hill & Route 153)

The parking lot is essentially completed. R. Allen said it's a large parking lot that can probably accommodate approximately 30 cars. It has timber guardrails. It's easy to get in and out of the parking area. There is plenty of room for a trailer, etc. There is an area available for a kiosk with trail maps.

The Ingham Hill parking lot is on hold. There is a cul-de-sac being put in up there. That is being done first before the parking lot can be completed. The cul-de-sac is needed for the trucks and delivery vehicles that have no place to turn around up there. There is money that's been set aside for the parking lot. There will be tree cutting that needs to be done before the parking lot can be put in.

B. Any Other New Business

L. Swenson said that the Roger Tory Peterson Center may be coming to Old Saybrook. She suggested that it could possibly be located in The Preserve as an education center or maybe in Mariner's Way. C. Cryder suggested L. Swenson contact Mike Urban from the Old Saybrook Land Trust and Dave Gumbart from The Nature Conservancy.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting of The Preserve Ad Hoc Committee will be on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Building, 308 Main Street.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk