

Friends of Goodwin Forest

March 9, 2021

Via zoom

Minutes of January 12, 2021 were unanimously accepted and passed.

Treasurer Report: Bill reported that we are two months into the year and not much activity has taken place. The dues are coming in. He reported that two revisions were made to the 2021 budget. A motion was made to accept the treasurer report. All agreed. Treasurer report was accepted.

Membership update: Jim reported that there was one new membership in January and two new members in March. Discussion took place around the purging of the membership list and how it should be done. It was agreed that if someone hasn't paid in 4-5 years they come off.

Social Media/marketing: Lynn reported that the traffic is up on the Website and Facebook is getting viewers as well. The trail run was posted and is generating interest. She reported that the website does have a paypal button for people to make donations, ect. She started the Blog back up. Lynn noted that a newsletter needs to go out soon with a list of upcoming events. She noted that the plant sale will go on and be done like last year, with the first week Friend members and then open up to the public.

CFPA news: Eric asked that we be patient with Terry for she is a bit overwhelmed due to short staffing and she doubling up on duties. He reported on staff changes that are taking place with a new field coordinator for the trails. Alex introduced self and gave a brief background history. Eric noted they are still looking for a third member of the team.

DEEP news : Matt gave an update on the replacement/repair of the three bridges. He reported that there will be a walk through for the Dam replacement in the next 3-4 weeks and bids will go out.

Update on Feb. 20 pre-harvest tour: Matt noted Ed McGuire sent an email giving an update. The preharvest walk took place on February 20, 2021, and they are trying to get the timber sale. The same process will take place for a planned harvest of Cedar Swamp. Around the end of March, Jerry Bellows will begin to cut down those trees identified as hazardous on Cedar Swamp and the red/white trails.

Director's report: Beth updated all on the changes within her position. She noted that the PSA is being drafted by DEEP. The maintenance and facility responsibility will be removed from the directors position and she will be focusing on education. The Friends of Goodwin Forest liaison duties will remain under the program director. Warren and Mike will be transitioning over to Matt's direction. Beth has been working proactively with Matt and seasonal staff to prepare for this transition. Beth gave a brief update on the center. Currently it is still closed to the public,

but the trails and grounds are open, except where the harvest is being done. She noted that it may be opened on Memorial Day weekend. She will keep us informed. Beth reported on upcoming happenings. She noted that she is awaiting word from Windham Middle School, Project Learning Tree Training is going on, Master Naturalist will take place in the Spring, and will be doing a Forest Management tour with DEEP regarding the management plan with DEEP for 2022.

Education/program report: Meg reported that the winter programs have had solid attendance. She noted that the webinars have had about forty-five viewers on average, but the napinars didn't do well. She reported that the webinars now do ask for donations. She gave a list of upcoming webinars.

Goodwin Center physical plant & maintenance: Beth reported for Mike that the siding repair is underway. The electricity upgrade is being done. They are awaiting funding from DEEP to replace/repair the museum roof and garage roof replacement. Winter projects that were completed included carpets, restroom locks, and shutters were painted. Beth noted that the maps were printed and placed in the kiosks.

Trails report: Bob reported that not much activity due to weather issues.

Garden: Warren reported on the plant sale and he will need help with the repair of the stonewall. He noted that the volunteers will begin the first week of April.

Other business: Steve gave an outline for the display. He stated it is primarily a visual display that tells the story of Goodwin and the development of Friends. The draft and layout will be distributed.

The FGF 11th anniversary is on hold.

Next meeting May 11, 2021. Tentative site TBA at Goodwin.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Emily Logee-Savoie