

Friends of Goodwin Forest

November 9, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 1:01pm

Ramona Goode, from Deep, gave an update on the dam construction project, noting that it is progressing well.

Present: J. Giana, E. Logee-Savoie, L. Wenner, S. Crawford, B. Avery, W. Hastings, M. McCabe, B. Bernard, L. Kochiss, L. Warren, B. Spaman, M. Rondeau

Minutes of 7/15/21 were unanimously accepted.

Minutes of 9/14/21 were unanimously accepted.

Treasurer Report/Proposed 2022 Budget: Bill presented the performance of the 2021 budget. He noted we will end in a negative position of about \$5300, which brings the balance down to around \$37000. The 2022 proposed budget, Bill reported, is getting back to normal times. It is basically a break-even budget he noted. Bill reviewed the line items of income and expenses of the proposed budget. The treasurer report was approved unanimously and the proposed 2022 budget was approved unanimously.

Membership update: Jim reported that he had a person, Cristina Hagerty, show interest in becoming the chair person for membership. Once he saw her resume, he contacted her and asked if she would be interested in the treasurer position, which is opening up with the vacating of Bill. She is currently training with Bill. Jim reported that we have 92 current Friend members and 133 dual members. Report accepted unanimously.

Social Media/marketing/e-newsletter: Lynne gave an update regarding Facebook, the website, noting the numbers are up regarding people viewing sites. She noted the newsletter is not getting out as planned and suggested it be more volunteer focused. She would like to get more material for the blogs and would like to post every 2 months. Report unanimously accepted.

Garden Report: Warren reported that the garden is doing well. They got the rain garden up and running. He has plans for a fern garden to go in in the Spring. He noted they had a composting seminar and have a new composting bin. He reported that the new propagation bed has been built and work has been done on the discovery trail. Report unanimously accepted.

CFPA news & updates: Eric not available. Beth reported that Eric wanted all to know about the upcoming annual meeting to be held via zoom on 12/15/21 at 6pm.

DEEP news & updates: Matt unavailable. Jim read a report from Dan Evans, the new State Land Management Forester assigned to Goodwin. He will be continuing with the initiatives planned by E. McGuire prior to his retirement. The two projects were planned to benefit oak resilience in areas of severe oak mortality. Both projects will require temporary trail closures. There is also planned a hazard tree removal project. Bill voiced concern regarding trail closures these projects would impact upon and would like to discuss this with him.

Director's report: Beth reported that she finally has a PSA, which is good until December 2023. She noted that the Windham field trips are almost done and they have been wonderful. She has gotten a lot of good feedback from the students regarding their time spent at Goodwin and from the teachers. She reported that the Windham afterschool partnership training will be taking place and that the Master Woodland Program will take place in Spring and Fall 2022. She reported that they are still awaiting the movement of the offices. She noted that the volunteer hours should be updated in the CFPA volunteer portal as needed. Report unanimously accepted.

Education/program report: Meg reported that programs are going well. She is getting more of the volunteers back and attendance is steady. She noted that she will be going to Harkness in search of original Goodwin furniture in hopes of returning it to Goodwin. She would like to have Friend's involvement with the Hike n Seek program being offered December 31, January 1 and 2, by doing outreach, handing out pamphlets, assisting with the program. Meg also reported that plans are in effect to install a free library by the museum. Lynn K. gave a brief overview of the project. It was noted that the library will be focused on nature related books. Report unanimously accepted. Ryan gave a brief report on his programs that are well attended.

Goodwin center physical plant & maintenance: Mike reported that it is business as usual. He wanted to give a thank you to Stan for his assistance with projects and a thank you to all of the trail crew.

Trails report: Bob M not available. Stan reported that brush trimming and mowing of multiple trails has taken place. Repairs of eroded sections has been done. The bridge between Edward's property and Governor's island has reinforced decking so it can be used until it is replaced. Brush has been cleared around the charcoal mound demonstration site. Stan also thanked Mike for all his help. Report unanimously accepted.

Other Business: Warren gave a proposal for a retail gift shop at Goodwin. He stated it would start small and then maybe include local artisans. Discussion ensued regarding ways to get this established, on-line store only, who would be responsible for it. Friends of Goodwin would have to take sole responsibility as DEEP staff are not allowed to be involved with Friends fundraising projects. It was noted that Harkness and Dinosaur Park have a friend's run gift shop. This will

be tabled until next meeting and a posting will be put on CFPA website for anyone interested in pursuing this adventure.

Jim reported that Steve will not be running for Vice President of the Friend's , and also the treasurer position is vacating. Jim noted he is interested in continuing in the roll of president. He reported that January are the elections.

Next meeting is January 25, 2022 via zoom at 1pm. Respectfully submitted by Emily Logee-Savoie