

Friends of Goodwin Forest

September 13, 2022

Present: J. Giana, B. Bernard, E. Knubald, J. Parda, S. Crawford, G. Newcombe, E. Logee-Savoie, B. Spaman, B. Marshall

Meeting was called to order by Jim at 1:02pm. The minutes of July 12, 2022 were accepted unanimously.

Treasurer report: Bruce reported that we are in our third quarter and our fundraisers are 50% over the projected budget. Our YTD balance is at \$58,608. The report was unanimously accepted.

Membership update: Jim reported that we had 2 new members. The friends have 101 paid members there are 136 dual members. making these 237 totals. The report was unanimously accepted.

Social media/marketing/e-newsletter: Condolence's sent to Lynne on the passing of her father.

Garden report: no report

CFPA news & updates: No report

DEEP new & updates: No report Beth noted that DEEP has created a hazardous tree policy and reported that it should not affect Goodwin.

Director's report: Beth reported that a contractor has been hired to complete the building repair. The Master Naturalist 11 program has 13 new attendees. She noted that the Master Woodland program will be at Goodwin this year. She reported that Eoin's last day is in 1.5 months. She noted that two positions are open and posted-The Naturalist and the Ameri core position. Beth gave a brief overview of available programs in October. She noted that the interest in the invasive plant management program was low, so it will be brought up in the Spring. Beth also brought forward a suggestion from Eric that an email be sent out to members to see if there is an interest for FGF meetings to be in the evening, to circulate a time choice. She also reported that there is a Friends of State Parks diversity workshop on October 12th.

Trails report: Glen gave the report for Bob. Glen reported that the steps are in, they are dealing with blow downs on the trails. He noted that the forester area will be opening up soon as they are wrapping up. He also reported that there has been multiple mowing's of grass on several trails and several trail sections have been bushwhacked. Glen reported that Lynne alerted the trail committee to a \$250 "Clean Trail Grant Program" which Glen applied and a grant was received. This was offered by Extreme Terrain. Jim added that a forester friend noted there are a few branches on dead trees that are a safety concern. Report was accepted unanimously.

Goodwin staffing needs: Beth reported that Lori stated that the creation of a position is a process and she would like a full-time director at Goodwin before a full-time maintainer. Discussion ensued. The trust monies were brought up as to how it is used for positions. Beth noted it covers the maintainer, naturalist and garden person; Deep doesn't cover here.

Other business: Jim brought up the need for the development of a 5-year plan for the Friends group. An email will be sent out asking for input for this and anyone interested please send an email to Jim.

It was noted by Bruce that Hampton is having a Harvest Fest and it would be nice to have a booth for Goodwin.

It was noted that we need to expand our membership and some ideas were brought up: Have a Fall event- A fairy house festival, Annual Gingerbread House festival, UConn Woodsman Day or a family forestry day.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12. **Next meeting is November 8, 2022 at 1pm.**

Respectfully submitted by Emily Logee-Savoie

