

Friends of Goodwin Forest  
November 12, 2019

Present: E. Logee-Savoie, S. Broderick, D. May, B. Bernard, S. Crawford, J. Parada, B. Marshall, J. Giana, G. Newcombe, C. Rose, W. Hastings, L. Ives, M. Quinn, N. Polydys

Meeting opened at 1pm. Minutes of 9/17/19 were reviewed and accepted.

Unfortunately, due to impending bad weather, the DAM repair report was postponed.

Treasurer Report: Bill reported we are exceeding our projections on income secondary to great fundraisers. He noted that there are some expenses that were incurred are not shown that are related to trail expenses. Bill will have the new budget laid out for January's meeting.

Membership update: Jim reported that currently there are 212 members, but within that number are couples, so technically we have 260 members.

No social media report.

CFPA news and update. No report.

DEEP news and updates. Matt provided a sample of the siding that will be used on the house project. He reported that the bid for contractors is being sent out in the next couple of weeks. He noted the project for the toilets is progressing, but slowly. It will be one unit to start and he hopes it will be completed in the Spring. He reported that the Passport for Parks program went well and as a result he should have some extra help on board to assist with trail projects.

Director's report: Beth sent out a "thank you" for all the volunteers who came to the dinner. She also thanked the Friends' group for providing funding for the bus that brought the Natchaug second graders to Goodwin. They were very excited to be here and enjoyed the programming very much and are looking forward to returning next year. She noted that the seasonal staff are done (Bob and Warren). Beth reported she was contacted by the Girl Scouts who have a program called "Love State Parks". They would like to participate in hiking, biking, running in 2020 at Goodwin. More to come on this. Beth and Lena are going to move the office upstairs which will create more program space downstairs.

Education/program report: Lena and Beth reported that the second level Master Naturalist program is finished. Lena went on to report that they were talking about expanding the Master Naturalist programs to include other sites in the state.. Some suggestions were made. All were in agreement that it must stay a Friends of Goodwin program. Lena noted that in the past week numbers have been down due to the season.

Physical plant/maintenance: Beth noted again the office move. The heating system is in need of repair.

Trials' report: Stan read the trails report from Bob Mazzaway. Windfalls are continuing to be removed and monitoring for hazardous trees is continuing on the trails. Stan and Glen organized a clean up crew with local scouts on the Edwards property. Glen organized a cleanup with a group of NEMBA bikers. The trail crew assisted with the effort to reorient the stairs at the front of the museum building. The walkway is pending. The orange trail remains closed at the Station Road section, due to the logging project. Notices with alternate routes have been posted. An updated forest Discovery Trail route was established in coordination with Master Naturalist Laurie Averill and has been blazed using the green arrow markers. The Orange Trail GPS walk is on pause until the logging is completed. A riding brush mower continues to be a desired addition for trail maintenance. Beth noted she has put in a request with DEEP, and funding will also be put in for 2020 AQHA. Stan noted he has a couple of Friend Members who have tractors with bush hogs and would like to get permission to have them work on a couple of trails. Matt noted no problem is they are Friend volunteers.

Gardens: Warren reported the fringe tree was moved away from the house and the gardens are set for the winter months.

Other: Boat shed: Dale reported that the shed hasn't been addressed due to the question What is the plan for the pond? Matt assured that the dam is being rebuilt and there is no plan to drain down Pine Acres pond. Discussion ensued. Plans will be gotten for approval of the boat shed with CFPA.

Goodwin Forest Stewardship Plan: Steve gave a brief synopsis of the Stewardship plan. He noted there are two management plans. One for the 83 acres that is specific to Goodwin that Beth is in charge of managing and then there is the DEEP forestry management for approximately 1,700 plus acres. Beth noted she needs some assistance with this plan. Steve gave some history to the Stewardship plan. He noted that there are two main parts to it, one being invasive management and the other self guided trails. Discussion ensued and suggestions made for writing up the Stewardship plan.

Nominations: Jim Giana wishes to continue as president.

Bill Marshall will continue as treasurer.

Open positions: Vice president

Recording secretary (If no one wishes to apply, Emily will continue for 1 year)

Lesly Bourque will continue with membership.

Steve Broderick-past president.

Meeting adjourned at 3pm **Next meeting is January 14, 2020 T 1PM.** Respectfully submitted by Emily Logee-Savoie

