

Strafford Conservation Commission Meeting
September 26, 2023

Location- 201 Justin Morrill Mem Hwy, (Micki Colbeck's house because of JMH flooding)

Present: Micki Colbeck, Anne Fayen, Mike Hebb, Courtney Potter, Steve Faccio, Kitty Mackie

1. Approved minutes from August 29, 2023
2. Welcome our two new board members, Kitty and Erin.
 - Welcomed Kitty
 - Erin was absent
3. Sign a thank you card for Chuck.
 - Micki provided a card for us all to sign.
4. Old City Falls and Tim McCormack
 - Tim's wife passed away and he may no longer able to take care of OCF.
 - Mike is finishing the outhouse project.
 - Eddie is doing the gate temporarily.
 - Suggest Jeffery Gayle. Steve will help Mike finish the projects in OCF.
5. Film screening update. Need volunteers that night to set up chairs at 6pm and stay to help clean up afterwards. Paul Kiffner is meeting at 6pm to set up AV. Basket for donations to offset cost of hall rental and to give something to Paul? Sandwich board is on the porch.
 - Micki needs help setting up.
 - Kitty will help with chairs
 - Courtney will sit with donation basket.
 - We will use the money to pay the rental all leftover will go to Paul.
6. Flood issues. Rudi and educational outreach? Eric Donaldson? Selectboard is proposing to lift some restrictions on building structures in floodplains. I've reached out to David P. for details.
 - Kate reached out to Rudi who will come speak about flood mitigation.
 - Discuss the selectboard meeting and our opinions on the flood plains.
 - We are keeping our eyes out and Micki is planning on going to the meeting on the 14th.
7. SCC sponsored events: Thoughts on what we should plan for next year.
 - Everyone was happy with the hikes.
 - Still planning on invasive pull at the library.
 - Kate suggests a hike with school kids. Focusing on a topic.
8. Mike's trails report.

- Discovered some moccasin flowers near the yellow lady slippers.
 - He is going up to check the east loop because it is very wet. He is thinking he may put boards down.
 - Orchids were in the Hanover magazine.
 - Ed Lang has offered to do the trails in the town forest.
 - Talk about a trail possibility between the villages that the rec dept may manage.
 - Talk about inviting the landowners up to Whitcomb at some point to discuss the trail and get everyone on the same page.
9. Anne's report on sign for Barb and Wally. Annes' report on split rail fencing at Pocket park.
- Anne heard from her friend who put in a design and should be ready in a couple weeks the cost is \$75.
 - It will need a coat of lacquer before it goes up. Mike said he can do it.
 - Will be screwed onto the side of the garden shed. Mike suggests brass screws.
 - We discussed who should pay for it Anne thinks we should pay. Micki is ok with us paying. Micki says that we have now received the money from Ashley Forest. Voted and all were in favor.
 - Mike has concerns about our money being used by other members of the town.
 - Anne will pick it up and pay for it then get reimbursed.
10. Kate's report on Newton School outreach.
- Kate was absent, we will follow up next meeting.
11. Invasives report
- Kate, Anne and Courtney are still planning a pull at the library in October.
12. Other business.
- Discussed maple leaf cutter bugs briefly because Kitty and Courtney have them at their homes.

Next Meeting; October 24, 2023.

Meet here at Micki's at 7pm She suggests no meeting in November.

Meeting adjourned.