Georgia Conservation Commission Meeting minutes December 16, 2024

Attendees: Ken, Alysia, Tom, Peter, Annette, Suzanna -arrived 7:30 PM Absent: Fred and Jen

Meeting called to order 6:31 PM

Reviewed minutes of October and the minutes were approved.

Reviewed minutes of November. Two changes were Jim Early to be a guest and Joanne Harvey to be a guest. The minutes were approved with the noted changes.

Tom has been working with the town treasurer, and the updated financials are as follows: $159,872 Reserve Fund, Project Funds $19,267, Line Item $930.75, General Fund $47,900.

The following Items were discussed, which were in order of the agenda as On-going Business:

1. Boards for walkway at RGNA: get 12 foot long 8x8's from Cyr Lumber.

2. Silver Lake new trail to beaver area: Wetlands could be an issue – Contact Krystal @ state wetlands office. Concern about opening this area for easier access by trappers. Discussed other options for a different extension to the trail network including a loop that would extend along the east side of the property near an existing stonewall. Motion to accept Greg/Rabbit Track's proposal knowing we will adjust/modify the trail location - all in favor.

3. VELCO: Some stone will stay in place, temporary bridge at ford to be removed. Utility line work I is planned for mid-late February.

4. Bidwell land: Donna Bidwell's daughter called Alysia to get progress on gift of land to the town. It was decided that the commission obtain a title search on the property. Alysia to contact Dan Triggs and Steve Cushing.

5. Boardwalk Town Garage: A few members were concerned about the benefit of the platform and viewing area as compared to the cost. After some discussion it was decided that a trail through the wetland area would be a better option. Ken indicated that the Selectboard would like to discuss the current wetland permit approval for the property with the DRB. It was decided that the commission wait until after this meeting to get some direction on the path placement / viability.

6. Joanne Harvey afterschool program: it was determined that the commission could fund this program. Motion by Tom to grant $500 to the PTCO for this program. Motion approved with the exception of Suzanna who abstained.

7. Search for a new commission member: No action.

The following Items were discussed, which were in order of the agenda as New Business:

1. SLW Forest Management: Tom & Alysia provided feedback to Charlie Hancock. We will try to have a meeting in the start of 2025 with Charlie Hancock & VLT.

2. Stream Restoration Work: This meeting was onsite to discuss and review options for stream stability.

Adjourned at 8:32 PM

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