

**I Call to Order 6:03** by Dawn

Meeting Held outdoors at Burncoat Park Ballfield

Note: Covid restrictions adhered to by meeting outdoors and maintaining social distance.

In attendance: Dawn Marttila, Chair, Russ Anderson, recorder, Dianna Provencher, Select Board, John True, Snowmobile, Greg Conlon, Burncoat Pond Water District

Also present: David Generoux, Town Administrator, Dennis Griffin, Highway Superintendent, Dennis partner

Not in attendance: Harry Brooks, Lucky Margadonna, Steve Paretti, Kevin Desaulnier, Vice Chair

**II. Approval of Minutes for Jan 16, 2020** motion to accept by Dianna, 2nd by Greg all approve.

Approval of minutes for July 2020 motion to accept by John, 2nd by Dianna all approved

**III. Report from Highway department:**

- Field has been mowed & brush along road trimmed back
- A tree fallen along road due to recent tropical storm will be soon removed
- Drain pipe across road to beach will be replaced next week for safety reasons. Very dry right now so it is a good time to do this sort of work.
  - o Snowmobile club will build a bridge to protect it

**IV. Old business**

- Water test results of well were reviewed which were very good (see attached report).
- Building report. Harry could not be here to give an update. Dawn asked the town administrator if funds (\$25,000 designated each year for Parks) were available in this year's budget and he explained that the funds this year were used at Towtaid Park. That it is best to finish one park at a time and funds will go to specific projects with a detailed plan and price list. He cannot predict what will be available next year but expects due to the current fiscal situation there may be cuts. Dennis suggested that when we run electricity to the buildings it be sent underground to avoid vandalism.

- Softball Field: John presented suggestions for improvements to the softball field with a mind to making it a multi-use field which would be useful to more sports. He showed overlays of the current field with a reorientation of the softball field as well as a soccer field and football field. The existing site would need to be enlarged. Discussion focused on what this would involve and how to go about it. David pointed out that it could be expensive and wondered if it fit into the towns master plan for sports facilities. Dennis said that the highway could do some of the prep work but there would be costs involved with the disposal of the fence, asphalt from the basketball court and concrete from backstop and fencing posts. John provided a list of things that would need to be done which included: Move telephone pole, Remove basketball court, remove fence, drainage and contours, clear brush and trees to enlarge area, and install a car barrier along road. Permits would be required.

- o Motion made by Dawn and seconded by Dianna: to Present John's plan to ConCom for their opinion and request that they hire a Wetlands Specialist using NOI funds to identify wetland boundaries around field and determine the feasibility of reconfiguring the ballfield for Softball and perhaps soccer. All in favor.

Signage: Not ready yet, still working on wording which will be presented to board and run by town council prior to next meeting.

## **V. New business**

Russ arranged for Dawn to meet with Dick OBrien of Conservation Works,LLC a trails consultant to look at our trails and make suggestions. Dick suggested that we apply for a Mass Trails Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant to help us develop the trails. This could include funding for: signage, kiosks, trail work, tools, invasive species removal along trails, etc. Deadline to apply is February 2021. His company could be hired to do the work. They could also write the grant for us for \$2,500. David would like to look over the grant but thought this might work. Dick serves on the committee that reviews the grants. He suggested that if we could tie in with the MidState Trail or Mass Audubon/Sibley farms trails we would stand a better chance of obtaining the grant. Dick also suggested a PARC grant but the deadline has passed for this year and David informed us that the town has applied for this grant for Towtaid park. Dawn said Dick also mentioned that we may be able to sell carbon credits for our forest land as a way to obtain funds which she will look into and report back to us.

Russ made a motion, 2nd by Dianna that we look into applying for this grant and consider hiring Conservation Works, LLC to write the grant. All in favor.

Fall Cleanup: September 27 (maybe), 2020 needs to happen before archery season in mid October.

Next meeting: September 10, 2020 location tbd

Signage, grants, fall cleanup.

Adjourn 8:05