F.X. Shea Town Forest Committee Meeting May 18, 2015 Corinth Town Hall

Corrected minutes

Members Present: Frank Roderick, Courtney Haynes, Kevin Eaton, Dina DuBois
Absent: Val Stori

Meeting called to order at 7:05PM  Changes to agenda: Postpone: email use list, StoryWalk discussion; add: reimbursement to Dina, Group use of forest, Val’s time sheet.

I. Action on Minutes. Add comma after Dave’s name. Frank moves to approve. Courtney seconds. All in favor.

II. Poet Tree Path debriefing. Third graders came to the forest and followed the red and orange trails to find their poems. Map reading instruction/trail marker instruction briefly done. Wild flower finding and ID was done. More information about where the town forest is located is needed for the public to find it. Confusion that Maple Wood/Clement trail is another town forest. Discussion of need for gate at forest entry to keep vehicles out. Better than a no vehicles sign. Also Penny Andrew, when hanging the poems, suggested having some more gravel put into the wetish area at the entrance to the forest. Frank suggested that perhaps during a trail clearing people could carry in some buckets of gravel to put there.

III. Report on Foresters forest walk. Courtney reported on the 2 hour walk to the top of the orange trail to the height of land and down the blue trail by Dave Paganelli and Ginny Barlow. Silviculture culture plan will be made. They identified places for set asides for no timber harvesting. Dave recommends no commercial harvest for around a decade. But have demonstration projects in the forest for instruction: logging, chain saw felling, habitat patch cuts etc. Commercial harvesting less often but higher intensity maybe in 10 years again in 20. No harvest in red trail for now. Ask Dave to do a workshop in the forest. Dina reported on a discussion with forester Paul Hardwood who recommended any income from forest goes back into the forest fund after reimbursing for lost taxes. Also warned about once use becomes known abuse can follow. He thought use of Project Learning Tree, a state funded program, would help with school instruction for students in the forest. Dina will ask Val is she has pursued that.

IV. Val’s time sheet. Frank will contact Val to submit that timesheet covering the Wildlife Film Festival and StoryWalk work to Susan.

V. Map. Kevin made small corrections/additions for the postcard size map/directions. He also recommended that when a large map is needed again that the lamination does not exceed the 24’ x 36 dimension. He asked that a chain or string be put on the notebook in the kiosk. Courtney noted that the scale for the map doesn’t use the usual numbers. Next time change that. Dina asked for reimbursement for the 3 laminated maps and the tape to mount them. Frank moved to okay the payment, Courtney seconded all in favor. Dina donated the cost of the postcard sized maps and gave the art teacher and third grader teachers thank you books. Dina will take post card size cards to Ken at the Library. She reported that Ken has mounted a show in the library of the forest pictures that were in the Town Hall gallery for the month of March. Courtney reported that Carl Demrow will not be doing the three fold trail descriptions for the Kiosk. Kevin sounded knowledgeable about that and the committee thought it could be worked on by members.
VI. **Events.** Need to schedule a trail clearing. Dina will talk to April Hallock, art teacher, about a Fall forestry Artistry project possibly with Nikko, the art workshop person, at the ROOTS School in Corinth.

VII. **Next meeting:** Tuesday July 28, 2015. **Agenda:** 1. Change to agenda. 2. Action on minutes. 3. StoryWalk report, Email list use, Trail Clearing. Gate at entry to forest. Val’s invoice, management plan.

VIII. Dina moved to adjourn at 8:15PM. Courtney seconded. All in favor. Respectfully submitted, Dina DuBois