

Minutes: Hallowell Conservation Commission

March 18, 2019 Hallowell Fire Station

Present: Rosemary Presnar, Chair; Sarah Shed, Cathie Murray, Deb Sewall, Ben Godsoe
Karen Simpson, Secretary

Guest: Jean-Luc Theriault, Stewardship Director, Kennebec Land Trust

A. Call to Order: January minutes approved: Ben; second: Sarah

B. Jean-Luc: Update on Effie L. Berry Conservation Area

- Over 80 hikers and snowshoers attended the NRCM outing on March 9.
- The trail map of the property has been completed by KLT and approved.
- Kirsten has completed a description and history of the property. Deb will edit.
- Two invasive removal workdays will be scheduled between May 12 and June 1. KLT's intern will be available to assist and we will use our volunteer email list to enlist extra assistance. Of special concern is the area around the pond. An effort will be made to cut invasives - knotweed, bittersweet, honeysuckle and multiflora roses - every two weeks during the growing season.
- The easement allows planting to control and possibly crowd out invasives. Fall would be the best time to do this. We will pursue coordination with the Tree Board for assistance with labor and financing.
- A bridge will be needed across the bog not to interfere with tractor access into the field. We discussed appropriate placing of 8 foot cedar boards.
- The western boundary of the property and the area around the pond still need KLT property markers.
- Dedication of Howard Hill is planned for October 2019.
- We have concerns about the parking area in front of the kiosk being used for firefighter car training and the broken glass that is left behind.

C. Jon Lund's resignation from the Commission was accepted.

- Jon will be recognized by the City for his many years of invaluable service at the April 8 City Council meeting.

D. RES Planning Project Updates

- RES Boundary Survey is underway. The city is working with Main-Land Development Consultant of Livermore Falls. A full report is expected soon.
- The RES working group will meet May 1.
- Still under discussion: trail stewardship for the RES

E. Browntail moth plans

With Browntail moths moving inland from the coast and sightings of their webs in several Hallowell neighborhoods, the Commission is making an effort to educate the public about this dangerous pest. Cathie organized an information session at Halldale Elementary School (2/26) for parents and community members. We also asked Sam Shepherd to write an article for the KJ. HCC members will meet Sunday, March 24, at 10:00 to clip low webs on Orchard Street and nearby neighborhoods.

Our next meetings are on the City Calendar: May 20 and June 17

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm Respectfully submitted, Karen Simpson, Secretary