

Present: Erik heumiller, Richard Rhames, Denis Rioux, Bryan Hadley, Chrystina Gastelum

Absent: Maya Atlas, Mike Lowell

Guests: Keith Fletcher, Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Kayla

Call to order 6:05pm

2.1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 26, 2022 - TABLED

MCHT Guest, Keith Fletcher

Discussion of basics of conservation options from Keith Fletcher of MCHT. Also discussed current conserved land and the importance of working landscapes in that mix. Climate change impacts including planning future marshland. Covered funding like granting options as well as land trusts, talking to landowners, using the open space plan as a baseline/guide for areas to focus on, developing a land bank in the city of Biddeford. Resources & examples included: www.mtn.org, <https://wellsmeconservation.org/> Discussed the taxation impact of development -- including that the cost of services often outweighs the benefit of additional payers. Considered an economic impact study of Biddeford as a way to really understand risk/benefit of development financially.

Clifford Park: MCHT Easement Monitoring Report - discussion of outcomes, interest in considering trail movement due to vernal pools 19 and 21 in Glynn report. Noted large amounts of burnable wood and firepits present. Concern that there may be too much fuel available in the park.

Motion to approve the Mark Ward proposal to review vernal pool activity in Clifford Park. Richard Rhames. **Second:** Denis Rioux **Vote:** Unanimous

Discussion included ensuring that photos would be made to share on website/social media.

Motion to approve payment for Mark Ward's explanatory memo to help us understand the BRI report in context. Richard Rhames. **Second:** Denis Rioux. **Vote:** Unanimous.

Discussed writing a letter to City Council regarding the land swap vis-a-vis the Winding Creek development. Concern around whether that was carefully considered when originally decided in October 2020.

https://granicus_production_attachments.s3.amazonaws.com/biddeford/7b30100561397f768955fc31358cc5bc0.pdf See item 6c (and review video).

Hidden Hills - Richard Rhames to contact developer about organizing a site walk and following through on Mark Ward's proposal to walk the land.

Website Updates - Erik Heumiller walked us through an assessment of current assets and potential updates to them. We discussed the need for improved communication to engage more people on our important mission.

Strategic Plan discussion focused on the website updates. Interest expressed in continuing to feed into the Comprehensive Planning process.

Guest Kayla asked about whether we source data from the community to understand needs and desires of constituents. We replied with our experience with the comprehensive plan survey as well as past surveys and noted that it was limited. Kayla expressed interest in continuing to learn more about city operations and conservation in particular.

Adjourn 8:15pm