Somersworth Conservation Commission

MINUTES OF MALLEY FARM SITE WALK MEETING Wednesday, April 19, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Doug Bryar, Kevin Dodds, Scott Orzechowski, and Angela Ficco

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sarah Childs, Dale Smith-Kenyon, Jeremy Degler, and Jeremy Rhodes

COUNCILORS PRESENT:

Councilor Matt Gerding Councilor Richard Michaud

Quorum was met at 4:30, when the meeting was called to order by Scott Orzechowski.

The party began the walk at the ballfields and proceeded toward the overgrown farm pond bridge that remains from the site's former use as a farm. Then proceeded uphill onto the ridge of Indigo Hill and followed the existing de facto trail northward to the confluence of the brook from the farm pond and the Salmon Falls River.

Items discussed were:

- Decision not to locate any trail on the opposite side of the farm pond, which is primarily wetland;
- routes that avoid steep slopes;
- erosion controls;
- bridge placement;
- trail termination;
- signage;
- encroachment by invasive plants;
- ecological considerations;
- potential grants;
- the potential to hire contractors who assist in trail design and project management;
- public trail experts throughout the state;
- closure of dangerous and/or environmentally deleterious sections of the existing trail(s);
- techniques for wetland crossings;
- public outreach;
- ADA accessibility; and
- Scenic stops.

Kevin Dodds agreed to lead a subcommittee that so far includes himself, Angela Ficco and Doug Bryar. It will be brought to a vote at the next regular meeting whether to hire a contractor to do an initial consultation.

Kevin Dodds motioned to adjourn at 6:15. Angela Ficco seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Scott Orzechowski adjourned the meeting at 6:15.

Minutes submitted by Scott Orzechowski