**Groton Stewardship Committee Minutes**

**Present:** Eileen McHugh (Conservation Commission, Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee); Bob Hanninen (Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee); Anna Eliot (Community Preservation Committee, Park Commission); Lisa Murray (Groton Garden Club); Olin Lathrop (Conservation Commission, Invasive Species Committee); Alex Woodle (Great Pond Advisory Committee)

**Others Present:** Nik Gualco (Conservation Administrator)

**Location:** Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

**When:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021

E. McHugh called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**1. Committee updates**

Gualco reported on the progress the State has made in reviewing the documents for the Priest Hill habitat restoration project. E. McHugh reported that the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee will be conducting hybrid meetings, however, there is an on-going discussion on how this will be accomplished. L. Murray commented that the Garden Club has been conducting its meetings using a hybrid format.

**2. Discussion on grants and other funding opportunities for stewardship activities**

The Committee discussed its interest is keeping an eye of grant opportunities, but spent the majority of the time discussing the upcoming DFW-led Barrens Restoration project along the Squannacook River. This project has been somewhat controversial and the Committee discussed the various elements of the project.

**3. Update on the short-video projects**

A. Woodle provided an update on his project, which has been re-focused from Lost Lake in general to a more specific look at the creation of Sargisson Beach Conservation Area. A. Woodle summarized his recent efforts going through the files at Town Hall.

B. Hanninen stated he is still working on his Flat Pond project and has reached out to the Groton Channel Director.

L. Murray shared a slide show of various Garden Club managed properties.

**4. Update on monitoring of town-owned/CR properties**

n/a

**5. Approve meeting minutes**

The Committee reviewed a set of meeting minutes for November 17, 2021. A revision was made and the following vote taken:

 Upon a motion by A. Eliot, seconded by A. Woodle, it was:

 VOTED to approve and release the meeting minutes for Nov. 17, 2021 as revised.

 **The motion carried by a roll call vote (Yes: BH, AW, AM, AE, EM; Abstain: OL).**

**6. Set next meeting date**

The Committee decided that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 6:30pm.

**7. Adjourn**

 Upon a motion by A. Eliot, seconded by B. Hanninen, it was:

 VOTED: to adjourn the meeting at 7:54pm.

 **The motion carried by a roll call vote (Yes: BH, OL, LM, AW, AE, EM).**

**Minutes Approved: January 19, 2022**