

Town of Columbia
Szegda Farm Management Committee
MINUTES (Submitted by: Tom McGrath Chair)
Thursday March 5, 2020

Call to Order – 6PM

Present: Tom McGrath, David Bull, Deb Smith, Leslie Brand, Marc Volza

Minutes from 2020/01/09 - approved

Audience of Citizens - none

Old Business

- **Community Garden 2020/2021**
 - **Deb Smith as SFMC garden liaison, and Leslie Brand plot coordinator/garden mentor -** Currently 8 returning gardeners have registered. Liaisons will meet with new gardeners on a 1 to 1 basis going forward as they register. Marc Volza will update rules for gardeners to emphasize NO PLANTS GROWING ON OR NEAR FENCING
 - **Fencing still needs additional clips or zip ties** – Tom McGrath to work on this
 - **Wood chip spread, work on newer sections** – a big pile of woodchips is available but we may wait until stone dust paths are established before spreading. Millie Ramsey is leading the stone dust project which will probably resume in April. The Student from E.O. Smith (Brendan Duckett?) – may be available again this year to help with some of the projects as a part of community service.
 - **Water Pump / Water Tank / Solar Pump Start up 2020/ Shut Down in 2020** – with mild weather have it start up May 1st.
 - **Harvest Celebration August 2020** – Deb and Leslie will try to get community garden members to consider doing this again this year
- **Steward report (Tom McGrath)**
 - **Trails conditions** - all good currently
 - **Parking lot conditions** – all good currently
 - **Power Company activity on trails/roads etc.** – still actively working on the back hay field right of way.
 - **Szegda Road stonewall cleanup and spraying for 2020-2021** – Tom McGrath to purchase and get reimbursed for the Dawn + Vinegar ingredients and then do some spraying along the wall over next couple of months
 - **Agricultural usage of Ag Units 5 & 6** – nothing to report
 - **portable toilet 2020** – Plan for mid May to mid October again this year
 - **equipment (mowers, weedwacker)** – Scag and walk behind are currently being serviced by DPW
 - **DPW top soil from rec park ?** – Marc Volza will check with DPW if any is still available and if so in what timeframe and what additional help they will provide in using it at Szegda Farm
 - **DPW brush hog fields ?** – Currently DPW is working at Rec Park and will postpone work at Szegda Farm until that is completed. Would like to have them there for 2 days of cleanup along farm roads and field edges.

- **Budget Review 2020-2021** – All set for right now for 2020-2021
 - Marc Volza researched replacement options for the SCAG mower -
 - New non commercial \$3000, Used Commercial \$3000, New Commercial \$8000
 - Marc Volza is meeting with a contractor to see what pricing there would be for mowing
- **Other (Correspondence, Proposed Actions)**
 - Anthony Ortiz officially resigned from the Committee
 - One of the Boy Scout families (Mike Kovick) has offered to volunteer his equipment and time to do some light brush hogging for us while we wait for DPW to become available

New Business

Adjournment at 6:40

Next Regular Meeting: May 7,2020