

Town of Columbia

Szegda Farm Management Committee

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Present: Tom McGrath, Gary King, Nancy Schwartz, and Mark Volza

The meeting opened at 7:14 PM.

The minutes of 11/9/16 were approved.

Audience of Citizens:

Old business:

Budget 2017-2018 – Mark provided us with a copy of next fiscal year’s proposed budget for Szegda Farm (Fund28) dated 11/30/16. It includes gas, blades, and equipment repairs, as well as stone wall poison ivy treatment. Mark indicated that the funds to replace the garden fence were in the DPW budget. He will request additional funds for lime, fertilizer, and hay seed for the back field.

Columbia Classic Car Show – The 2016 event netted \$1202 for Szegda Farm. The 2017 date will be September 11 with a rain date of September 17. Szegda Farm will not be one of the benefactors this time.

Steward report – Tom snow-shoed the trails this past weekend and reported that they were in good shape.

Agriculture usage of Ag units 5 & 6 – Gary reported that some more clearing has been done by Walt.

Community garden – Beginning February 1 online registration will be available via the town website. The rec department will be handling the publicity, plot assignments and coordination with DPW services as well as the registration. The solar water system should be started up on May 1 for the 2017 season. Wednesday, August 23 was tentatively set as the date for the garden potluck.

Gifford’s Brook trout habitat improvement, gate and parking improvement from Rte 87 – Gary has concerns about the speed of the traffic coming down the hill and not being able to get equipment in to prevent weed regrowth by the brook.

Winter sledding, hiking, etc. – Both lots were plowed after the last snowstorm (1/7/17).

New business:

Dog Park – There is space for a fenced-in dog park at Szegda on the other side of the driveway from the community garden. It would require an additional committee/sub-committee to administer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Next Regular meeting: March 8, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Schwartz, SFMC secretary