

Town of Columbia

Szegda Farm Management Committee

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

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

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM.

The minutes of 3/08/17 were approved with the following correction: Steward – the trails were walked on March 6 & 7 (not May).

Audience of Citizens: Bob Ulkus

Old business:

Dog Park – Mark & Tom will discuss this in June.

Budget 2017-2018 – Mark stated that the SFMC budget items are unchanged.

Steward report – Tom checked around the fields. He and Gary stated that the trails need cutting. Energies and time have been focused on trying to keep up with the parking lot and garden areas. Additional volunteers would be welcome.

Lawn mowers and equipment /Gas debit card – Tom filled all of the gas cans last week.

Community garden 2017- Bob reported all 23 garden plots have been taken by 21 parties. The water was hooked up and ready to go before May, and the weed dump area was cleared and made ready for composting. Additional hoses will be hooked up inside the garden to provide easier water access for different sections.

Pot luck dinner Wednesday, August 23 – Yes, we will plan to do this and invite additional guests (such as BOS) in order to spread the word about the garden.

Rec department role – Bob stated that other than some initial confusion of a few individuals about the online registration, the process has worked well.

Fencing – It was determined that Mark would get a cost estimate to have a chain link fence installed around the garden. If the price was reasonable then we would wait an additional budget year for the fence replacement. Otherwise Mark would order 500' of nylon fencing and posts before July 1 to be installed this fall in the October/November timeframe. Bob requested that DPW handle the installation and maintenance.

Agriculture usage of Ag units 5 & 6 – The fields are looking better. Will check with Walt to determine what's next.

Gifford's Brook trout habitat improvement, gate and parking improvement from Rt 87 – nothing new.

Winter sledding, hiking, snowshoeing, x-c skiing for 2017-18 – If the weather cooperates the rec dept may be able to organize short-notice events.

New business:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Next Regular meeting: July 12, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Schwartz, SFMC secretary