

**Land Stewardship Subcommittee  
Town Hall Chambers – 8 Newmarket Road  
Final Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2024**

**Members Attending:** Ann Welsh, John Carroll, Gale Carey, Ted Howard, and Marty Gorham.

**Attending via Zoom:** Mike Drooker, Jim Lawson and Sara Callaghan

**Absent:** Larry Brickner-Wood and John Nachilly.

**Also attending:** Todd Selig, and Rachel Gasowski

1. The Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Ann Welsh.
2. The order of the meeting agenda was approved with one abstention.
3. The minutes for the December 13, 2023 meeting were amended and approved.
4. Stewardship Working Group update  
Gale stated that the Stewarding Our Lands 2022-2023 Questionnaire Findings have been completed and are available on the town website.

The stewardship working group is working on an inventory of town properties. A public side will include available recreational activities. An internal side of will include property management/stewardship information.

An effort is underway to provide a comprehensive webpage, and signage at town properties, using symbols with easily recognized graphics to inform the public of the various facilities, structures, cultural interest, recreational activities, etc. that are available at each property.

5. Land Stewardship Coordinator  
Sara stated that she has been working on easement monitoring and documentation, and has met with some land owners.

#### Capstone Conservation Easement

It was reported that there are ongoing noncompliance issues in the Capstone Conservation Easement. These issues have been ongoing for a number of years and include unauthorized dumping, a tipi structure with chairs, and trails that have been created and maintained. The area is considered environmentally sensitive because it is adjacent to the Oyster River. Sara is planning to work with Todd Selig to correct these noncompliance issues.

#### Fogg #1 and Fogg #2

Sara has met with the new owners of the Fogg #1 and Fogg #2 properties and discussed the conservation easement restrictions with them.

#### Pike Property

Horses have been observed on the town owned portion of the Pike property. Sara is working to address this matter.

#### Beaudette Property Trail

An effort is underway for an in-kind replacement of the existing foot bridge.

## Trail Hazards and Maintenance Reporting & Trail Steward Reports

Sara stated that the web based reporting systems are working and demonstrated how the reporting systems work.

### 6. Bee City

Ann asked committee members to make her aware of any activities that have taken place over the last year that have contributed to the protection or enhancement of bee habitat.

### 7. Other Updates

The trustees approved an agreement with forester Charlie Moreno to prepare an updated forest management plan for the Doe Farm.

The City of Portsmouth is planning to proceed with water main maintenance at Wagon Hill. The schedule, costs and extent of the work is still being evaluated.

### 8. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

The next meeting is planned for Wednesday, February 14, 2023 at 8:30 am in the Town Hall Chambers.