Proctor Beaver Pond Committee Regular Meeting April 18, 2023 – 6:00PM Draft Minutes

Location: Proctor Town Office Meeting Room

Attending: Dale Christie(chairman), Jim Moore, Charlotte Firestone, Michael Ramsay

Called to order at 6:05pm

Approved meeting agenda. Jim made motion, Charlotte 2nd

Reviewed 03/21/23 meeting minutes. Approve them unanimously. Jim made motion, Dale 2nd

Chairman's report:

Dale led tour near pond to Pittsford Historical Society folks and found out about a collection of photos by Mary Randall and one photo was taken at Beaver Pond. Dale shared photo with committee. It shows a RR line on the west side of the pond and marble at the north end in the background.

Kids threw marble and debris in the overflow culvert at the dam. Jim and Dale cleaned it out. Parents found out what kids did it and now they will be volunteering for Green up day.

1st work day:

Grills are out, thanks to Kyle and town crew. Discussion about using whitewash as anti-beaver treatment on trees. A tree near the dam that already has been partially eaten by beavers will get a treatment to see if it deters further beaver activity. Beavers have also been removing milfoil, which is a good thing. Kids partying at the pull off areas almost every night according to a local resident. Michael will share that with the sheriff department. It was agreed that a work day is needed for a while. Tables and a bench will be moved when convenient. Green up day may find some stuff to remove.

Logging Operations:

Selectboard supported our letter. Discussed how to preserve the 35 acres forever. Might have to put it in the deed. Still a utility right of way there that goes through the quarry lot. Might benefit some by managing the forest anyway, even if not for profit. Nature does figure it out. Would need to outline things clearly and specifically. Perhaps only restrict "logging operation." What does the forest service do?

Maintenance and improvements:

Jim's shelter idea on the old valve house foundation discussed. It would be a nice spot to sit in the rain. Carrie will be leading green up day, so that's all set.

Trails:

This weekend the trail re-route of the Marble trail will be done with Tim & Carrie. Discussion about the quarry and future plans there. The Quarry gardens at Schuyler (Virginia) a botanical garden made from an old soapstone quarry. Benefits from neighboring UVA and not as much potential support here. Printed 100 new maps are ready to go.

Rules and ordinances: none

Other old/new business:

Concept of creating a Friends of Beaver Pond non-profit discussed. It could take donations. Lots of paperwork, needs fundraising staff and ongoing requirements. Parcel of land north of Beaver pond discussed next. It is Omya land. Some still have hard feelings about the 10 deal to get the pond and the lot to the north would be a nice addition. There is a lot of OMYA land available. We'll keep thinking about it. Acquiring the additional land could be something the "friends of" organization could help with.

Next meeting: 2023-05-16

Motion to adjourn made by Jim and Charlotte 2nd. Meeting ended at 7:05pm.