

Switzkill Farm Board Meeting
Town of Berne
PO Box 57
Berne, NY 12023

Date: September 5, 2017

Board members present: Ted Kunker, Diane Kingston, Richard Ronconi, Mark Hohengasser, Karen Schimmer (Town Board Liaison), and other interested citizens.

Ted Kunker called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Review of Minutes: Minutes from the previous meeting were unavailable for review.

Old Business:

Ms. Schimmer reported on the following:

- Replacement of the floor in the dining area. Chance and Jeff will be working on painting the barns and barn roofs next.
- Two kiosks are needed with general and emergency info. Construction options will be looked into including using the BKW School shop class and a local Boy Scout Troup. Moving the current kiosk on the property was considered.
- Monthly dinners (a Chef's Table style event) at the Lodge were discussed. Chance Townsend said he'd be willing to coordinate. Also will work on a possible equipment clinic/fair for outdoor sporting goods stores.
- The Friends of Switzkill Farm organization is moving ahead under the direction of Karol Harlow.

Mr. Kunker reported on the following:

- Stated that August revenue for Switzkill Farm was \$1480. Ms. Schimmer said a fee policy/schedule is being created.
- Thanked Tom O'Malley for keeping the trails and pond cleared.

Mr. Hohengasser said that he had placed trail markers and blazes along routes. Areas for a blue bird trail were discussed. Mr. Ronconi said the Millers have returned from Florida and will help. Mr. Hohengasser said that 17 geo-cache sites have been restocked on the property.

Ms. Harlow updated the Board on the progress of the Friends of Switzkill Farm group. Finances and using an existing 501-C3 through the Renew the Earth organization were discussed. Some members suggested looking into creating a new 501-C3 for the Friends group. Mr. Kunker and Ms. Schimmer said they'd follow up. An initial Friends meeting is scheduled for October 14.

New Business:

Mr. Kunker suggested increasing the number of Board members from seven to nine beginning in 2018. Mr. Ronconi moved to recommend to the Town Board that Terry Schwendeman fill the remainder of Charlie Burgess's term through 2018. Mr. Hohengasser seconded and the motion passed, 4-0. Mr. Ronconi moved to recommend to the Town Board that the number of Switzkill Farm Board seats be increased to nine. Ms. Kingston seconded and the motion passed, 4-0.

Mr. Kunker will ask Diane Poole if she would agree to be the Switzkill Facebook page administrator.

Plans for HarvestFest (10/7) were discussed including: orienteering with Sue Hawkes-Teeter; hayrides by Roger Chrysler; geo-caching; music/entertainment; pig roast; crafts and activities. On September 15th there will be a HarvestFest committee meeting at the lodge at 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be on October 3rd.

At 9:00 p.m. Mr. Kunker adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Brown
Switzkill Farm Board Secretary