

Switzkill Farm Board Meeting

Town of Berne
PO Box 57
Berne, NY 12023

Date: November 7, 2017

Board members present: Ted Kunker, Richard Ronconi, Mark Hohengasser, Mark Sengenberger, Chance Townsend, Terry Schwendeman, Kathy Brown (secretary), and other interested citizens.

Ted Kunker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review of Minutes: Minutes from the September 5 and October 3, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Sengenberger moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Ronconi seconded and the motion passed, 6-0.

Old Business:

There was discussion regarding the number of Board seats and those persons expressing interest in filling vacancies. Aaron Carr stated that he believed he was an honorary member of the Board already. Mr. Kunker said that the Town Board will decide to fill SF Board vacancies and maybe increase the number of seats from seven to nine with input from the SF Board.

Mr. Kunker reported that SF income for October was \$940. The Town Board approved a \$9780 budget for SF for 2018. He said that revenue from SF is currently over \$8,000 for the year.

Mr. Hohengasser said the property needs a leaf blower in order to keep the trails cleared. Ms. Harlow did a tour of the property with a group and did a species audit of trail #5. Mr. Hohengasser suggested that perhaps species identification signs be posted around the property. Mr. Townsend said that BKW shop class might be able to help build signs and refuse containers for the property.

Mr. Ronconi reported on the program committee and said that he's attended a recent BKW high school faculty meeting where he gave a quick presentation on SF and handed out brochures. On November 8, he will be meeting with the elementary school faculty and speak with Superintendent Mundell. A guest suggested that possibly the BKW junior class could have their prom at SF.

New Business:

Henry, Luke and Jack Zelenak made a presentation to the Board about the newly formed "Washed-Out Radio-Control Club." It is a non-profit electric car club that would like to establish a couple courses on the property for use as tracks for the small radio-controlled cars (at most .66 total acres would be utilized). There are currently six members in the club. Noise level to be relatively low due to the electric motors. Members of the club would be responsible for track maintenance and clean up after events. Mr. Sengenberger suggested that the group that a memorandum of understanding be agreed upon between the Club and the Board. Mr. Ronconi moved to approve moving forward the concept of a radio-controlled car track on the SF property to be presented at a future Town Board Meeting. Mr. Townsend seconded and the motion passed, 6-0.

Board members discussed Winterfest plans including snowshoeing, hiking and a bonfire. Mr. Kunker will email members about possible dates.

Ms. Schwendeman will consider coordinating the SF Facebook page.

Mr. Kunker discussed a possible donation of a player piano. The Board decided not to accept the offer.

Mr. Townsend said he will be pursuing the potential dinner program. The Board decided to start off first with a Breakfast and Walk/Ski program on Dec. 2nd.

Next meeting will be on December 5th.

At 8:53 p.m. Mr. Kunker adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Brown
Switzkill Farm Board Secretary