

## **Switzkill Farm Board Meeting**

Town of Berne  
PO Box 57  
Berne, NY 12023

**Date:** June 5, 2016

Board members present: Ted Kunker, Lee Jones, Mark Sengenberger, Mark Hohengasser, Charles Burgess, Dawn Jordan (Board liaison); and other interested citizens including Sue Hawkes-Teeter, Craig Angard and John Zieske.

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

### **Guest Comments/Correspondence:**

Mr. Zieske addressed the Board about again having his troop (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) volunteer for trail work at the property this summer. Mr. Hohengasser suggested having the scouts work on a connecting trail near the waterfall. Mr. Kunker suggested making surplus material available to residents in need. Dawn will ask the Town Board to declare as surplus.

### **Old Business:**

**Update on Wedding** – Diane Poole said that comments from guests included “clean” and “spacious” and one complaint of no cable. Ms. Poole suggested stressing “peace and serenity” in promotional/informational efforts. Sue Hawkes-Teeter said there were over 100 guests and that the wedding went well.

**Marketing** – Ms. Jordan reviewed the marketing firm’s schedule for property name selection/marketing. Mr. Burgess suggested that in order to meet the “aggressive” schedule, the Town Board authorize the GFR Board to approve feedback from marketing firm. Mr. Kunker said that the Town Board will be handling all naming and marketing issues.

**Grants** – Mr. Burgess reported that the list of grant opportunities is complete. Mr. Burgess suggested pursuing the New York State Council on the Arts - Arts and Culture Initiative Grant and the NYS Parks and Recreation EPF Grant next year. He suggested enrolling in the Grants Gateway. Ted, Charles and Diane will research timetable and requirements for grants. Ms. Kingston spoke about Lowe’s grants. Access to the property via an old road from Irish Hill through State land was discussed.

**Working Group on Land/Facilities** – Paint colors for outbuildings were reviewed. Red and natural colors including browns and neutrals were preferred. Remediation for moss/mold issues was discussed. The Board decided to hold off on color selection until the marketing firm/Town Board decide on colors for branding. Task prioritizing schedule was reviewed. Water issues were discussed including leach fields, holding tanks and portable bathrooms. ADA compliance, signage, updating power and using shale for parking lots were discussed.

**Working Group on Observatory** – Mr. Angard reported to the Board on the recent Observatory Committee meeting. He also reported on a recent meeting he attended at the Adirondak Public Observatory where topics included interfacing with the community, budgeting and public funding.

### **New Business:**

Mr. Kunker urged all members to make sure to schedule events on the GFR website. Ted, Mark Hohengasser or Diane Poole is to be notified of events. Mr. Hohengasser spoke about the need to find a method of allowing people to use the park at night. The Board discussed a permitting system.

Fundraiser for June 25<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Alcoholic beverages will not be allowed. Food options were reviewed.

A policy for having the GFR property be a “carry-in, carry-out” park will be researched and language suggested at next meeting.

Clearing of campsites will begin with volunteer efforts sought.

A garage sale/junk in the trunk event fundraiser was discussed for July.

There being no additional business before the Board, Mr. Kunker adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hill Brown  
GFR Board Secretary