

Bolton Conservation Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 2, 2018 – 7:30 P.M.  
Town Hall

Members Present: Chair Rodney Parlee, Peter Van Dine and Brenda Cataldo

Others Present: Ray Boyd, Deb Livingston, Alan Bicknell, and Recording Secretary Linda McDonald

1.0 **Preliminaries:** Call Meeting to Order: R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

1.2 Approval of Agenda: B. Cataldo MOVED to approve the agenda as presented. P. Van Dine SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

1.3 Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting on February 5, 2018: B. Cataldo MOVED to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on February 5, 2018 as presented. P. Van Dine SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

2.0 **Public Comment:** None.

3.0 **Recycling at our schools** - Discussion with Ray Boyd, Director of Operations Bolton Public Schools:

R. Parlee asked about ways to encourage recycling at the annual Family Day/Winter Craft Day and other events at the Bolton Center School (BCS). R. Boyd explained the daily recycling routine at the BCS. He said a conscious effort was made to physically separate the blue recycling classroom bins from the trash containers in the classrooms to encourage more recycling.

R. Boyd said many recyclable containers are considered food contaminants and are not recyclable at the school. He credited going to single stream recycling for generating so much more recycling at the school. He said garbage/trash disposal is not measured by tonnage, but he believes recycling generates revenue.

Discussion followed on providing a few smaller single stream recycling bins at school events. R. Boyd volunteered to contact the Town's hauler to explain the difficulty of recycling efforts at the school and get a donation of bins for the schools. R. Parlee will draft a letter the Administrative Officer on purchasing smaller recycling bins at BCS. B. Cataldo recommended having a recycling bin next to each garbage bin at school events.

R. Boyd said a recycling bin is stationed in the High School hallway during sporting events.

Discussion followed on the difficulty educating students at a younger age. Some ideas presented included:

- R. Boyd recommended introducing the concern of the BCC to the administration at the school.
- D. Livingston offered to do presentations at the schools.
- Have the high school students talk to the grammar school students.

R. Parlee will reach out to Science Teacher Karen Cordero at Bolton High School.

R. Boyd said obsolete school computers, electronic equipment and televisions are recycled. Old books are put in the book drop in front of the school, not trashed.

R. Boyd said he will report to the administration that the BCC wants to foster and promote the highest level of recycling education to the younger students. D. Livingston agreed to be an alternate to the BCC

#### 4.0 **Printed on Recycled Paper-** Calendar & BCC Documents:

R. Parlee said the BCC should practice what it preaches. Consensus of the commission was to make a formal request to the Town Administrative Officer that the BCC be allowed to purchase recycled paper out of the BCC activities fund budget.

B. Cataldo reported that the BCC calendars are printed with a small percentage of recycled paper and can a statement to that effect can be printed on the calendar.

#### 5.0 **Correspondence:**

- Correspondence from Department of Transportation regarding State Project No. 12-96: Maintenance of Drainage Channel: Notification of Submittal of Application to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for a General Permit for Water Resource Construction Activities on State Project No 12-96 Construction of Charter Oak Greenway Shared use Path: R. Parlee reported the application includes information on the impact on the natural diversity data base and water course drainage.
- Arc User winter 2018 issue
- Ct Wildlife issue Jan Feb 2018
- Ordinances Update: R. Parlee commented on a new fracking ordinance and tax deferral program for the elderly ordinance.
- Aquarion Water Company Environmental Champion Awards
- Review of the Advocacy Report to BOS on 3/6/18 from Bike/Walk Bolton
- CT Chapter of the Chestnut Tree Foundation letter 3/13/18 from Jack Swatt: R. Parlee will check on the cost for membership in the Chestnut Tree Foundation for possible donation from the BCC.
- Earth Day event proposal from Alan Bicknell: R. Parlee commented that Freja Park is promoted by the BCC each year for Earth Day. A. Bicknell said he has games that are mostly kid-centric that he could be set up. Discussion followed on possibility of having an event with A. Bicknell at Heritage Farm Day in September. A. Bicknell discussed his interest in Native American issues and expressed his interest in joining the BCC. R. Parlee will send A. Bicknell a copy of the Conservation Handbook.
- Developing brochures for "Identifying Vernal Pools in Bolton" and "Dead Wood: Let it Rest in Peace": R. Parlee will add this to the agenda and bring prototypes for approval to the next meeting.

#### 6.0 **Financial Report:** Finalize Prizes and NCCD Seedling Order:

P. Van Dine presented the Treasurer's Report. B. Cataldo MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. R. Parlee SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

Discussion followed on choosing and ordering the proposed photo contest prizes.

P. Van Dine MOVED to appropriate \$150.00 to purchase LL Bean gift cards as photo contest prizes. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

P. Van Dine MOVED to appropriate \$368.00 to purchase trees and plugs from the NCCD seedling sale as photo contest prizes. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

## 7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 Calendar Distribution to Advertisers and 2019 Production Schedule:

R. Parlee reviewed the 2019 calendar production schedule. P. Van Dine and B. Cataldo will meet as a subcommittee to discuss the specifics of the schedule. The commission accepted \$60.00 for calendar sales. Two calendars need to be delivered to advertisers.

7.2 Photo Contest Outreach in Schools: R. Parlee reported that he received an email from the Superintendent of Schools that the photo contest flyer will be distributed to all students in the schools.

7.3 Winter Stream Temperature Monitoring Combined Graph: R. Parlee explained that six streams in Bolton are being monitored by the BCC for temperatures.

7.4 BLWCA Meeting on April 5, 2018 and Lower Bolton Lake Status: The Review of Lower Bolton Lake 2017 Status update by P. Van Dine was distributed.

## 8.0 New Business

8.1 Reports on CAWS and CLLC Conferences: P. Van Dine reported that it was recommended at the CLLC conference that the Atlantic White Cedar stand and the Upper Bolton Lake part of the district should be nominated as a wetland of distinction.

R. Parlee discussed workshops he attended at the CLLC conference, including ideas for kiosk and wayside sign postings; leadership roles at meetings; GIS mapping for birds and people; and natural resource map layers at DEEP. He said critical habitats do not have protection and recommended the following website as a good source of information: [http://cteco.uconn.edu/guides/Critical\\_Habitat.htm](http://cteco.uconn.edu/guides/Critical_Habitat.htm).

8.2 300th Anniversary Committee meeting on April 9:

R. Parlee said town will celebrate its 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020 and Town Administrative Officer has invited people to attend the first organizational meeting on April 9, 2018. R. Parlee will contact the Town to say BCC is interested in participating but members are unable to attend the first meeting.

8.3 Vernal Pool Day Results, finalize Earth Day and Trails Day:

- Vernal Pool Day: R. Parlee said two or three potential vernal pools were identified on Vernal Pool Day. A BCC walk to the vernal pools will be held on Wednesday, April 11 at 4:00 p.m. for identification purposes.
- Earth Day on April 21, 2018: The draft poster was distributed and reviewed. Prizes for the best fairy house were discussed. A. Bicknell will discuss the history of Bolton Notch at the event.

B. Cataldo MOVED to appropriate up to \$40.00 to purchase fairy house prizes from Cropley's Garden Center out of the BCC activity fund. P. Van Dine SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0

- Trails Day on Saturday, June 2, 2018: R. Parlee said arborist Matt Largess will be the special guest on hike from Freja Park to Tulip Tree Trail to Middle Bolton Lake. This event is co-sponsored by BCC and Vernon Conservation Commission.

8.4 Nathan Hale Greenway: R. Parlee contacted the Andover Conservation Commission Chair Mike Palozzi and learned there is a large gap in the effort to have the pathway continuous in Andover as one landowner purchased back their property.

8.5 Outreach –BCC Facebook page etc: R. Parlee set up a BCC Facebook page after he was informed by the First Selectman Sandra Pierog that it was allowable with a disclaimer.

Membership contact list: B. Cataldo will compile the contact list information.

8.6 University of St. Joseph Bio-Blitz: April 21, 2018: R. Parlee said he will be participating on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. This is a 24-hour biological scavenger hunt.

8.7 Petrin Property – Natural Resource Protection: R. Parlee said this property is of interest for protection as it connects to other protected parcels.

9.0 **Approval of Clerk's Invoice:** B. Cataldo MOVED to approve the clerk's invoice as submitted. P. Van Dine SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

10.0 **Adjournment:** B. Cataldo MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. R. Parlee SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2018, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Linda H. McDonald

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.