

Bolton Conservation Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, February 5, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.  
Town Hall

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

Others Present: Gwen Marrion, Deb Livingston, and Recording Secretary Linda McDonald

#### 1.0 Preliminaries

1.1 Call Meeting to Order: R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

1.2 Approval of Agenda: P. Van Dine MOVED to approve the agenda with the addition of item 7.5: Discussion of Trails Day and Vernal Pool Day. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

1.3 Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting on January 8, 2018: P. Van Dine MOVED to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on January 8, 2018 as presented. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

2.0 Public Comment: None.

#### 3.0 Freja Park Kiosk:

Gwen Marrion, representing the Bike Walk Bolton and Bolton Trails Committee, asked if the Conservation Commission would be a partner with the Bike Walk Bolton to install an informational kiosk possibly located at the DOT commuter lot. She explained the steps and details involved in obtaining State DOT permission to install the kiosk. G. Marrion said she is working on finding out what State agency would be willing take jurisdiction of the space for the kiosk. Discussion followed on the importance of good signage at the trail, alternative locations for the proposed kiosk and possible expanded use of the existing kiosk at Freja Park.

In summary, G. Marrion asked if the Bolton Conservation Commission wanted to be a partner with Bike Walk Bolton on putting up informational signage that shares information about the natural resources of the area as well as businesses in the area.

P. Van Dine MOVED that the Bolton Conservation Commission cooperate with all parties in making sure that information is available at the entrances to the new Hop River Trail, Freja Park and the commuter parking lot. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

G. Marrion said the proposal is in the preliminary stage and she would report back to the Commission when she has more information from the State.

4.0 Recycling at Our Schools: Discussion with Deb Livingston: R. Parlee said the Conservation Commission prints all its correspondence on tree- free and bleach -free paper. He explained the meaning behind the logo on the Commission's paper and said this concept can be applied to the schools. He proposed having short recycling bins for students at the schools.

D. Livingston explained the recycling efforts currently used at Bolton Center School. She said there is no single stream recycling, composting or reducing waste programs in place in the classrooms and

cafeteria. She said the DEEP compost manual is a good resource for information and ideas. Discussion on this agenda item will be continued to the next meeting.

#### 5.0 Correspondence:

- R. Parlee distributed a copy of Nov/Dec CT Wildlife for viewing.
- P. Van Dine MOVED to ask for approval to purchase t-shirts from EarthdayShirts.com., total cost not to exceed \$125.00, funds to come from the activities fund. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.
- P. Van Dine MOVED to spend \$60.00 to send R. Parlee to the 2018 CT Land Conservation Conference (CLCC) on March 17, 2018. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.
- Town of Bolton Board/Commission Interest Form
- National Watershed Coalition Correspondence membership form

6.0 Financial Report: 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.

#### 7.0 Unfinished Business

##### 7.1 Calendar Sales, Distribution of Free Calendars to Advertisers:

B. Cataldo said she will distribute the remaining free calendars to advertisers. Consensus of the commission members was to add information on National Recycles Day, Bolton Bulletin and the Town's Emergency Notification system. B. Cataldo said she would check to see if the 2019 calendars can be printed on recycled paper and suggested free advertising in the calendar for the printing company. Discussion followed on the importance of establishing an earlier time frame for the 2019 calendar.

##### 7.2 Photo Contest:

R. Parlee reported the photo contest flyer is now on the Town's website homepage. The members discussed possibly advertising the contest through the schools and putting a flyer on the kiosk at Freja Park.

7.3 Winter Stream Temperature Monitoring: Discussion followed on the graphed temperature data readings for the six streams.

##### 7.4 BLWCA Snowshoe Report and Next Meeting on February 7:

P. Van Dine explained that the Bolton Conservation Commission has been directed by the Town through the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) to come up with a unified way of managing the three lakes as a unit body of water and the Bolton Lake Watershed Conservation Alliance (BLWCA) is the first line of doing this. He said, for the BLWCA to be able to work to find out how important the Atlantic white cedar is, is an important step in this direction.

P. Van Dine will draft a written report to the Board of Selectman and the Planning and Zoning Commission as to the Central Conservation District's Board of Directors formally recognizing the BLWCA as a working program of the North Central Conservation District, which will be a sponsoring organization as the BLWCA pursues grant opportunities.

R. Parlee described how he and P. Van Dine snowshoed last Saturday around the upper Bolton lake rare stand of Atlantic white cedar almost to the center core and took new circumference measurements on some of the largest trees.

7.5 Discussion of Trails Day and Vernal Pool Day: R. Parlee proposed combining the Conservation Commission Trails Day hike with the Town of Vernon on the first Saturday in June. The hike would begin at the commuter parking lot, through Freja park up to the Tulip Tree Trail to the Middle Bolton Lake dam. Consensus of the members was to add information in the Trails brochure that the hike will go past a property which is a possible acquisition for permanent open space.

P. Van Dine MOVED to authorize R. Parlee to move forward with Trails Day hike to the Tulip Tree Trail. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

P. Van Dine MOVED to hold a Vernal Pools day hike on the Mohegan Trail on Sunday, March 24, 2018. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

#### 8.0 New Business

8.1 Nathan Hale Greenway: R. Parlee asked the members to complete the survey on the Town's website regarding what they would like to see on the proposed Nathan Hale Greenway.

8.2 Approve Draft FY 16-17 Annual Report: P. Van Dine MOVED to approve the final draft of the 2016/2017 Annual Report as presented. B. Cataldo SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

8.3 Petrin Property: Members reviewed aerial maps of the selected timber harvest on the Petrin property. The property is still a priority for open space acquisition.

8.4 Outreach – BCC Facebook Page: R. Parlee commented on the difficulty working with the Town to get a Facebook page for the Commission. He emphasized that having a Facebook page is the only way of outreach for the Commission.

Consensus of the members was to work on outreach through Facebook page as an informal committee of themselves and results would be forthcoming.

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

10.0 Adjournment: B. Cataldo MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. P. Van Dine SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 5, 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.