

**BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, April 1, 2019, 7:00 p.m.**  
**TOWN HALL**

Members Present: Chairman Rodney Parlee, Alan Bicknell, Brenda Cataldo (arrived at 7:14 p.m.) and Peter Van Dine

Others Present: Jean Laughman and Recording Secretary Leslie Brand

**1.0 Preliminaries**

**1.1 Call Meeting to Order**

R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Proposed additions to the agenda:**

**4.3 BWB Port-a-Potty rental**

**6.8 Plastic Film Recycling**

P. Van Dine moved to approve the additions to the agenda. A. Bicknell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**1.2 Minutes Approval of March 4, 2019 Regular Meeting**

A. Bicknell moved to accept the minutes as submitted. R. Parlee seconded. P. Van Dine abstained. Motion passed 2:0:1.

**2.0 Public Comment:** None at this time. Comments will be made as items come up in the agenda.

**3.0 Correspondence**

Arc news Spring 2019

Esri News Spring 2019

Connecticut Wildlife magazine January/February 2019

R. Parlee presented data on lichen from UCONN

Stamp with the seal of the BCC

**4.0 Financial Report**

**4.1 Appropriate Event Prize Funds**

P. Van Dine presented the budget report. P. Van Dine moved to have the BOS transfer funds from the BCC office operating expenses account, ask for additional funds to allow them to hold 3 regular meetings and 1 special meeting and to authorize the Treasurer to make that request. A. Bicknell seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The three best fairy houses at the Freja Park celebration will win prizes. Prizes will be purchased from Cropley's. B. Cataldo will select prizes and have them set aside until it is determined whether or not the Town has an account with Cropley's. P. Van Dine moved to spend no more than \$60.00 for prizes from Cropley's for the fairy house contest. B. Cataldo seconded. Motion passed unanimously. P. Van Dine amended the motion to appropriate up to \$100.00 to include the purchase of compost for seedling planting. B. Cataldo seconded. The amended motion passed unanimously.

A 30" x 30" BCC banner with their logo is suggested for purchase. Photo contest prizes were discussed. One first place prize is an earth machine composter. Another first place prize is a drone flyover donated by Frank Cataldo with an 11" x 14" print made of the winner's house. Trees and shrubs will be ordered from the NCCD for prizes in the photo contest. Plants for first place will be one magnolia at \$50.00 and one fringe tree at \$50.00 both in 3-gallon pots. Second place prizes are four rhododendrons in 2-gallon pots at \$28.00 each for a total of \$112.00. Third place prizes are blueberries at \$40.00 for three plants. Two lots will be purchased for a total of \$80.00. And 2 bags of compost at \$9.00 each for a total of \$18.00. Total of all prizes is \$310.00. B. Cataldo moved to appropriate \$310.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund to purchase trees and shrubs from the North Central Conservation District for prizes for the photo contest. Order must be in by April 17, 2019. A. Bicknell will pick up the seedlings on April 12, 2019 for the Earth Day celebration. J. Laughman offered to supply pots and they need to be planted as soon as possible.

#### **4.2 ARC View GIS Online \$100**

R. Parlee presented the latest open space map and he received an Email from Gwen Marrion noting that all Conservation Commissions must maintain and inventory open space per State statute. R. Parlee attended a conference on March 23, 2019 where he obtained information on how to update and maintain open space information. The BCC agrees that they should have access to GIS ARC View mapping software.

#### **4.3 BWB Port-a-Potty rental**

Bike Walk Bolton is working with the BOS to make the bike path more attractive to residents. They want to have a port-a-potty either at the Commuter Lot or at the Tunnel parking lot. The BCC is amenable to financially supporting this venture when more information is available. P. Van Dine suggested writing a letter to BWB with a copy to the BOS noting the BCC's support. R. Parlee will write this letter.

### **5.0 Unfinished Business**

#### **5.1 2019, 2020 Calendar**

Unsold calendars will be collected from sale venues and a calendar will be given to all photo contest prize winners.

#### **5.2 Freja Kiosk Repair**

The kiosk was not repaired before it was installed. A visitors log will be added to the kiosk. Lexan will be ordered. A. Bicknell will price the lexan at Lowe's.

#### **5.3 Open Space Mapping/GIS Workstation/Freja Park Boundaries**

P. Van Dine felt that the boundaries on the parcel map were valid. P. Van Dine and R. Parlee will validate the boundaries of Freja Park by GPS at a later date. A. Bicknell will call Staples to get the cost of laminating the map for the kiosk.

#### **5.4 Freja/Herrick/BNSP Trail Monitor Report**

A. Bicknell walked Freja Park and it seems clean and popular. There are two campsites at BNSP that will need to be cleaned up. And a well was discovered at BNSP. There may be liability and vandalism problems. A. Bicknell will discuss with Ray Hardy. Kids to Park Day will be held on May 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at Herrick Park. A. Bicknell and R. Parlee will walk Herrick Park prior to that date.

#### **5.5 Library Exhibit Report**

A. Bicknell was told that the exhibit was well received and he would like to do it next year. Next year a signup sheet could be included so that people can indicate interest in joining the BCC.

#### **5.6 Photo Contest Outreach**

No entries have been received. R. Parlee will contact the art teacher (Lisa Argenta) at Bolton High School. A. Bicknell put a photo contest flyer at the library and at the tunnel parking lot. The Senior Center, the Notch Road Municipal Center and the Post Office were mentioned as good venues for outreach. B. Cataldo will post information on the Facebook page "Everything Bolton" and in the Bolton Bulletin.

### **6.0 New Business**

#### **6.1 Approve NCCD Plant Sale Order for Photo Contest Prizes**

Discussed above in Agenda item 4.1.

#### **6.2 Results of CLCC Conference-Proforestation=Higher Carbon Sequestration**

This was the largest conference of volunteer conservationists held in the United States. R. Parlee said that the most interesting thing that he learned was that an old growth forest grows faster than younger growth and when a clear cut is done, sugar maples generally don't come back. The volume of an older mature (100 years old +) forest is greater than a young forest thereby sequestering more carbon. Susan Masino, a professor at Trinity College is looking for volunteers to look for existing old growth forests to preserve. Other workshops he attended were GIS web mapping, board governance and monitoring water quality.

#### **6.3 Results of Vernal Pool Hike to BNSP on Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>**

A. Bicknell, R. Parlee, Jean Laughman and Ed Pawlak attended the hike. The vernal pool was half covered with ice. Yellow spotted salamander eggs were identified and photos were submitted to the UCONN amphibian tracker.

<http://hydrodictyon.eeb.uconn.edu/people/urban/amphibiantracker.html>

#### **6.4 Earth Day/Freja 50<sup>th</sup>/Fairy House Building Contest-Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**

Information from the library exhibit can be used for Earth Day tabling. The BCC will meet at the commuter lot at 9:30 a.m. for setup. P. Van Dine will attempt to contact the guest of honor.

### **6.5 Trails Day Hike on Nathan Hale Greenway from Munson's Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.**

Parking will be available in the upper Munson's parking lot. The hike will be 1.5 miles. Matt Largess the arborist will be discussing flora. P. Van Dine will be contacting a geologist. R. Parlee is trying to get an expert in lichens to attend.

### **6.6 BCC Citizen Science (Volunteer Monitoring) Initiative**

Results were back from last November's riffle bio assessment. The macroinvertebrates were misidentified. J. Laughman noted that macroinvertebrate identification is very difficult. R. Parlee will be attending an advanced hands-on macroinvertebrate conference and workshop. P. Van Dine noted that the keynote speaker at Friday's conference will be speaking on Citizen Science.

### **6.7 FBL and BLWCA Report (next mtg 4/11) – UCONN AWC GPR & Sediment Coring Project**

The next meeting of the BLWCA will be held on April 10, 2019. The coring project has gotten down to eight meters. The two layers of charcoal were found in the first meter. R. Parlee suggested taking a lateral core sample to try to determine the age of the cedars. P. Van Dine noted that the BLWCA had received support from NCCD and it appeared that a 319 grant could be used for a watershed study although all four towns in the BLWCA would need to be in agreement. A public presentation about the coring project will be given in the spring.

### **6.8 Plastic Film Recycling**

P. Van Dine noted that although the plastic air pockets used in shipping are stamped as recyclable they cannot be recycled in the single stream system as the machines get clogged. There are bins available at Highland Park Market in Manchester for this type of recycling. J. Laughman noted that the triangle numbers are meaningless now. There needs to be more public awareness of what is recyclable. A good public information brochure is needed. Single stream recycling makes it difficult to know what to recycle. J. Laughman will try to get a copy of the recycling video that the DEEP produced.

### **7.0 Approval of Clerk's Invoice**

B. Cataldo moved to accept the clerk's invoice as submitted. P. Van Dine seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **8.0 Adjournment**

P. Van Dine moved to adjourn at 9:28 p.m. B. Cataldo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Brand

*Leslie J. Brand*

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

Originals Printed on 100% Recycled Paper – Earth Day and Every Day

