

BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 2019
7:00 p.m.
TOWN HALL

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell and Peter Van Dine

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1 Call Meeting to Order

Chairman R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

1.2 Minutes Approval of October 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

In 3.0, correct the spelling of Beldon to Belden. A. Bicknell moved to accept the minutes as amended. P. Van Dine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Public Comment: None

3.0 Correspondence:

Habitat magazine Summer/Fall 2019

Arc News Fall 2019

Esri News Fall 2019

Email from Josh Kelly requesting members of all Commissions to complete online Sexual Harassment Training.

4.0 Financial Report

Treasurer P. Van Dine presented the financial report. A. Bicknell moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. R. Parlee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

P. Van Dine will follow up with the Finance Department to get an accounting of the fund balances.

4.1 New Policy

P. Van Dine informally discussed the new policy to follow for reimbursements. The new policy will be formally reviewed in December. The policy for reimbursement of Amazon purchases is still in question.

4.2 Composters

Six composters will be purchased from Amazon for \$41.00 each. These will be offered for sale at the Winter Faire and other events. R. Parlee noted that there is a public demand for them. P. Van Dine moved to price the composters for resale at \$50.00 each with a \$5.00 delivery charge if they can be purchased for less than \$43.00. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4.3 Waders (4)

R. Parlee moved to appropriate up to \$200.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund to purchase four sets of waders. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4.4 Gloves (2)

A. Bicknell moved to appropriate up to \$160.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund to purchase four pairs of RBV gloves. P. Van Dine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4.5 Aquatics Entomology book

Discussion was tabled pending further research.

5.0 Unfinished Business

5.1 Finalize 2020 Calendar, 300 Year Anniversary Dates, Collage, Envelope, Letter, Ads, etc.

R. Parlee discussed the advertisement application. Munson's may be contacted this year for calendar advertisement. B. Cataldo will contact prior advertisers.

R. Parlee composed the calendar letter with editing done by J. Laughman and P. Van Dine.

P. Van Dine composed the wording for the envelope and forwarded it to B. Cataldo.

R. Parlee is putting together the photo collage for the calendar.

The 300 year anniversary activity dates were discussed. There are activities planned for every month.

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P. Van Dine moved to change the date of the Annual Riffle Bio Assessment to Sunday, October 18, 2019. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5.2 Freja/Herrick/BNSP Trail Monitor Report-Freja Kiosk Vandalism

A. Bicknell noted that there was a significant amount of trash at Freja Park within the last two weeks. The kiosk was in good shape. Two binders had been forcibly removed and will be replaced. Options for replacement binders were discussed, possibly metal. The recently planted rhododendron was healthy.

Herrick Park will be discussed under 6.3.

BNSP was not monitored this month.

5.3 BCC Volunteer Monitoring Initiative-V-STeM Data Collection Status

Four sites were monitored. The invertebrates have not yet been identified. Rod, Peter and Jean will review and make identifications.

P. Van Dine spoke about the tidbit and the mechanics of its use. Some trial and error may be necessary. The testing of the app with the tidbit will be scheduled for later in the year. The BCC currently owns 3 hobos, a tidbit and a base station. P. Van Dine will download the data and share it with the Commission.

The DEEP hobos will be returned to them shortly.

5.4 CACIWC Annual Meeting Table-Top Exhibit

A. Bicknell, J. Laughman and R. Parlee will attend the CACIWC annual meeting on Saturday, November 23, 2019. In March 2020, the BCC will have an exhibit at the Bolton Library. The 50th anniversary of Earth Day will be highlighted.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Latest Open Space Percentage/Map and 490 Forest Property Request

There is currently 14.5% of open space in Bolton. The map of open space was reviewed. R. Parlee received a letter from Helen Totz, the Town Assessor noting that there had been an error in the coding of 490 properties. Addresses or identifying ID, acreage, location and maps will be requested from the assessor.

6.2 Initiate 18th Annual (2019-20) Photo Contest

B. Cataldo has put together a flyer promoting the photo contest. P. Van Dine made a motion to kick off the 18th Annual (2019-20) Photo Contest with a new submission deadline of May 8, 2020. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6.3 Results of Peak Foliage Hike at Herrick Park

R. Parlee noted that Richard Jewell, A. Bicknell and R. Parlee were the only ones in attendance. The new blazes were helpful. Mile-a-minute was found in the Park. Another Japanese Chestnut tree was found for a total of twelve in Herrick Park. There is an unidentified tree (black cottonwood or aspen) near the basketball courts that will need to be measured.

6.4 Winter Faire on Saturday, December 7, 2019

A. Bicknell and R. Parlee will table this event at the Bolton Center School. Calendars will be for sale.

6.5 FBL and BLWCA Report

P. Van Dine noted that Summer Stebbins from the Department of Environmental Sciences spoke about invasive aquatic plants at the last FBL meeting. The presence of the chemical PFAST was discussed at the BLWCA meeting. Research is necessary to determine the toxicity of this chemical. The next BLWCA meeting will be held on January 8, 2020.

6.6 Sustainable CT

The next meeting will be held on November 14, 2019, at 7:00 at Bolton Town Hall. There is grant money available. R. Parlee and P. Van Dine will attend the meeting

7.0 Approval of Clerk's Invoice

P. Van Dine moved to accept the Clerk's invoice as presented. R. Parlee seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8.0 Adjournment

P. Van Dine moved to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 2, 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.

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