

**BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, August 3, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING utilizing ZOOM**

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell, Brenda Cataldo, Matthew Rivers and Peter Van Dine

**1.0 Preliminaries**

**1.1 Call Meeting to Order-Roll Call**

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

**1.2 Minutes Review of July 6, 2020 Regular Meeting**

**Under 7.1** Change Irish Acres to Horse Farm at 84 Clark Road, Bolton

P. Van Dine made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**2.0 Public Comment:** None

**3.0 Correspondence:**

**Action Plan for Economic Vitality**

This Action Plan is on the Town of Bolton website. There is a Public Hearing is slated for this month. R. Parlee asked Commission members to send him any comments they have.

**HABITAT Newsletter published by CACIWC**

This newsletter includes the report from the annual meeting that was held in November.

**CT DEEP RBV 2019 Annual Summary**

The findings were surprising as Meghan Lally found seven most wanted macro invertebrates in October but none were found by the BCC in November. Four locations were visited.

This year's annual Riffle Bio Assessment is planned for October 18, 2020. This will be the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Riffle Bio Assessment held by the BCC.

**Notice of yoga at Fish Family Farm on August 11, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. Rain date is August 13, 2020**

**4.0 Financial Report:**

P. Van Dine reconciled the Activity Fund balance with the Town's records.

The new budget categories are Educational Training, Office Operation Supplies and Dues and Fees.

A question remains about the administration of the payroll account.

#### **4.1 FY Beginning Balance**

P. Van Dine reviewed the budget balances.

#### **4.2 V-Stem Equipment Inventory**

The BCC owns six Onset Hobo data loggers and one Tidbit.

#### **4.3 CACIWC Annual Membership**

P. Van Dine made a motion to appropriate \$75.00 from the Dues and Fees account to join CACIWC as a sustaining member. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4.4 BLT Annual Membership**

P. Van Dine made a motion to appropriate \$25.00 from the Dues and Fees account to join the Bolton Land Trust. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **5.0 Continuing Business**

#### **5.1 BCC Volunteer Monitoring Initiative-V-STeM Data Collection**

The Onset Hobo data logger at Freja Park was not monitoring data as it was not submerged in the water.

P. Van Dine and R. Parlee plan to meet on August 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to test the Tidbit's response under water.

A future date will be set to check the Onset Hobo data loggers in Baker Brook and French Brook.

#### **5.2 Library Exhibit Pick-up Status**

R. Parlee will contact Eileen Stanley for an update. A. Bicknell offered to pick up the materials. The materials are needed for the BCC's participation at the Farmers Market on August 30, 2020.

#### **5.3 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Photo Contest Rules/Marketing Review**

B. Cataldo made a motion to initiate the 20<sup>th</sup> annual photo contest. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5.4 Plan Monthly Trail Work Parties**

R. Parlee walked the trail at Freja Park. Some of the barberry and multi flora rose has been cleared but the autumn olive is closing off part of the trail. The water bars need to be cleaned out and/or reinstalled. At the bottom of the Shenipsit trail there is an area that is being worn out by mountain bikes. The green blaze is missing on the bridge and some of the signs need to be reattached.

A. Bicknell proposed August 8, 2020, as a work day beginning at 9:00 a.m. Members will meet in the commuter lot by Freja Park with tools including loppers, a pick ax, shovels, rakes and gloves.

R. Parlee was in communication with Laurie Giannotti who runs the CT DEEP Recreational Trails and Greenway program. “All Trails” is the new initiative to document trails in the State. They discussed the usage of trails as bike paths and the possibility of paving trails for biking and the plan to install lighting in the tunnel.

In Bolton Notch State Park, the lower figure eight trail on the Tulip Tree Trail will be closed for a year or two due to downed trees. The trees were adversely affected by gypsy moth infestations.

## **6.0 New Business**

### **6.1 Composting in Bolton “Going Green: Community Education Page”**

R. Parlee suggested that the Commission members read this documentation on the Town of Bolton website.

### **6.2 Initiate 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Photo Contest**

Covered under 5.3.

### **6.3 Farmers Market on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**

The BCC will be tabling at this event from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A. Bicknell and B. Cataldo plan to attend. A white oak that was not accepted as a prize for the photo contest may be offered for sale at the Farmers Market. Earth Day T-Shirts and two composters will also be available for sale.

### **6.4 2021 Monthly Calendar Pics**

Before the next BCC meeting, B. Cataldo will select 13 pictures from the photo contest entries to be used for the calendar.

### **6.5 LBL Lakefront Lawn Inventory**

R. Parlee, M. Rivers and P. Van Dine kayaked around Lower Bolton Lake and made a note of parcels that had lawns on the lakefront. P. Van Dine will share the data with R. Parlee. A future inventory may be made of retaining walls.

### **6.6 SCT, FBL and BLWCA Reports**

The BCC members reviewed J. Laughman’s report from the last SCT meeting. The need for an equity coach, tourism and composting were discussed.

The FBL is working with Northeast Aquatic Research as part of the STEAP grant.

There are Koi fish in Middle Lake and fanwort is present. Middle and Lower Lakes have returned to their more traditional levels. The knowledge of both lakes is improving. The next FBL meeting will be held on August 19, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

BLWCA met in late July. R. Parlee noted that there were two guest speakers from the North Central Conservation District including Executive Director Joanna Shapiro. There was a recommendation to increase the upland review area to 200 feet around the Atlantic White Cedar. The Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Tolland and Vernon need to come together to protect the lakes.

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

P. Van Dine made a motion to accept the clerk's invoice as presented. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **8.0 Adjournment**

P. Van Dine made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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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