

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting

May 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Zoom Information

<https://zoom.us/j/91374894374>

Meeting ID: 913 7489 4374

Call-in 929 205 6099

These minutes are subject to approval by the Conservation Commission

Present: Holly Kocet, Mark Lurie, Michael Ablondi, John Dixon, Mark Boland, John Dixon, Justin Kaiser

Staff: Rob Sibley, Deputy Director of Land Use, Dawn Fried, Clerk

Ms. Kocet opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kaiser moved to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021. Mr. Lurie seconded. All in favor. The minutes from April 13, 2021 were approved.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

Trail on Robin Hill Open Space – Mr. Lurie stated that Paula Burton, Housatonic Valley Chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association, could not be present but will attend the next CC meeting. Mr. Lurie gave an overview of the open space property, the right-of-ways, and the trail connections to the Creamery.

Mr. Boland asked how the right-of-way to the Creamery became blocked. Mr. Sibley explained after the road had been abandoned it became one large parcel of land which then became a sub-division. Mr. Sibley stated this is a great project and encouraged the Commission to create a pedestrian trail on the town open space which will connect to the Creamery.

Mr. Lurie requested a map of the Robin Hill open space for the next meeting.

Mr. Boland asked who would be responsible for the maintenance of the trails. Mr. Lurie stated the group that creates the trail would be responsible for maintaining.

Native Plant Policy and Guide Book – Mr. Boland stated this was the best guide book he has seen. Mr. Boland moved that the CC endorses the adoption of the Native Plant Guide and supports all activities to encourage the town to adopt the guide for plantings on town properties. Mr. Dixon seconded. All in favor.

Mr. Sibley commended Ms. Kocet for her hard work and passion in creating the Native Plant Guide. Mr. Sibley congratulated Ms. Kocet.

Mr. Boland suggested posting on the website and sending out a press release. Ms. Kocet stated now that the guide book has been officially endorsed she will reach out to the papers.

High Meadow Vegetation Survey – Ms. Kocet stated that everything is planned. Just waiting on September.

In-Person Meetings – The Commission had a discussion regarding in-person meetings. June 22nd will be the first in-person CC meeting.

Miscellaneous - Mr. Sibley stated that Eagle Scouts will be proposing their projects in the near future. One project is to build a bridge over Meeker Brook behind the animal control facility. The other project will be updating the town open space kiosks with QR codes and informational templates that can be used uniformly throughout the town. Mr. Sibley will ask IT for an open space map.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ablondi moved to adjourn the CC meeting. Mr. Kaiser seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dawn Fried