

Greenfield Conservation Commission (GCC)

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2024

Recorded by Michelle Hall

Members Attending: Karen Day, Tom Bregani, Brenda Gollihue, Candi Fowler

Guests Attending: John Hopkins and Dave Plourde from Trails Association; Dave Thimmel from Oak Park Committee

7:04 pm Karen called the meeting to order.

Approve or Amend meeting minutes from January 17, 2023

Brenda motioned to approve the amended minutes. Seconded by Candi. Motion passed, all were in favor.

Current Business:

Karen explained that no decisions were made at the February 28th meeting due to not having a quorum.

Karen stated that, at the last meeting, Dave brought a sketch of the proposed garden at Oak Park and he is working with Jeff. Dave is interested in the plants Karen has to offer such as Spiderwort, Joe Pye Weed, and Queen Ann's Lace once it starts to bloom. He is still having problems finding yellow flowers. Candi has a lot of perennial and annual black-eyed Susan she could offer and a lot of fern like yellow Coreopsis the last meeting and talked about the School House Trail. He was asked by Mason Parker to clean up the trail. John replaced the bridge at the south end of the trail, confirmed the bridge at the north end was still in great condition and cleaned up the trail to the parking lot. Karen had explained that the GCC would like the trail to be rather wide and they are willing to hire a professional to take care of this. He believes that the hill is too steep going up to the Commons for a trail.

The GCC discussed, if they choose to make a trail map, to only include town owned property, dirt roads and maybe the Emma Gipson Forest as the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF) is in charge of it. Tom mentioned a Fish and Game article he read explaining that a trail will effect wildlife 400' to either side of such trail and there are maps which show areas where wildlife is more effected by a trail.

Karen talked with Helaine, who is going to work on the poison ivy cleanup in April and then wait a month before going back out to remove any additional plants that come up. She will let the GCC know when it is safe to work out there to clean up the area. Dave Thimmel had mentioned that he can get a dump truck to haul material away from the School House Trail. Tom said that Ray Cilley had suggested the town get the lot surveyed which may come up when they talk to the trail people. Karen knows Hank Amsden, who is here in town, she will reach out to him. She will check with Catherine Shaw to see if there is an existing deed to that property.

Roadside Roundup – Brenda suggested handing out seed packets again. Karen suggested using a different flower this year, last year we gave out zinnias. Candi talked about doing a cosmo zinnia mix and putting them together in envelopes like they did last year. Brenda is going to reach out to businesses for gift cards to do the raffle baskets again. This may be a good way to recruit new members and have people sign up for a GCC email list. Tom & Brenda can do the 10:30 – 12:30. Candi & Karen 12:30 – 2:30. Candi will set up and take down. Karen has ordered the bags which should be ready for pick up soon. Candi will make muffins and cupcakes with earths on them. Tom will bring cookies. Karen will pick up mini sodas. They discussed the wording for the advertisement including snacks, sign up for email list and be entered to win the raffle basket. Karen will give CJ the blue bags, she will also leave at the Harvest Market and the post office. There should be a flyer for CJ to hand out or show people. Brenda will make a flyer for the Spirit.

Tom's roughly 1 mile winter hike is the Saturday at 10am, start at the state park entrance by the railroad tracks. Brenda will send out an email reminder.

Karen suggested Lew Shelly who may be someone to build the trail. They may need to look into a few different people when the time comes. Karen explained her vision on having a trail head at the openings to the trail, which may change if the field does become a Veteran's Memorial.

Tom is signed up with the coverts and has to complete 40 hours of work over the next year. The fee for this is \$50 which the GCC would cover.

Brenda needs to contact David Hall on the programs as well as Helaine. Brenda will send Karen a list on the upcoming programs. Maybe June for the poison ivy talk. Mike Gagnon can do anytime really because he has the presentation. Rick Masters can come back to do bears or bobcats.

The GCC decided to change their 3/27 meeting to 3/26. Motion passed, all were in favor.

8:20 pm Brenda motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Tom. Motion passed, all were in favor. The next meeting of the GCC will be 7pm on March 26th upstairs at the town offices.