

Greenfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Janice Pack

August 22, 2018

Attendees: Roger Lessard, Karen Day, Carol Irvin, Neal Brown

Attending from the Public: Kate Dean

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 pm by Chairperson Roger Lessard. The following items were addressed:

Accept or Amend Previous Meeting Minutes –Roger asked if the minutes had been reviewed. **Karen moved to accept the minutes, and Neal seconded. The minutes were accepted as written.**

It was noted that Carol has been sworn in as a Member.

GCC-sponsored programs at SML – Beverly Pietlicki, Library Director, and Clair Adams, SCA (Student Conservation Association) Interpretive Ranger at Greenfield and Monadnock State Parks, joined us to discuss Clair's offer to present daytime weekday environmental programs between Sept. 12 and Oct. 12 at schools, libraries, etc. Claire explained her role with the Student Conservation Association and detailed some of the programs she could bring. The programming is free.

Clair asked if anyone had ideas on other groups she could reach out to. Roger asked if she had been in touch with the Elementary School; she has tried, but hasn't been successful yet since school is not in session. He suggested Rivermead or Summer Hill, too. Other ideas were offered as the GCC brainstormed with her.

Bev said she was very excited about the programs Clair will be bringing to the Library. She has a meeting with Candi Fowler, and noted that they had changed the Pollinator Program to October 11th. Bev will send the flyer to Roger and Karen. She spoke about the Coyote Program, and Roger asked if she knew what the cost was as the GCC is way over budget for programming. Bev said the Library is over budget, too, and she will speak to the Friends about covering the cost for it. She has come to the GCC for help in promoting the programs. She hopes they can be as successful as the Loon Program was. She was encouraged to submit her events to Catherine Shaw to put out to the Town as an Event Announcement, and to contact the Ledger.

Bev asked about the Library's water being tested; Neal said it was connected to the Town Hall's water, and that it should be tested but that she should not have to pay for it.

Returning to the Coyote Program topic, she asked if the GCC thought it would be successful. Karen thought it would be well received. Bev is wondering if the timing is right (November) and what dates the GCC thought would work. Karen said after Election Day (November 6th) and before Thanksgiving. It was suggested that if the Trustees Meeting was moved back to the first Wednesday (November 7th)

then the program could be held on November 14th. Both the GCC and the Library will try and expand their programming budgets for next year.

NRI Review Status – Roger said there wasn't anything new on the NRI. They still have not heard from Mr. Underwood, even though Karen has emailed him. Roger will try reaching out to him.

Dunklee Hill Road Status Update – This road is off of New Boston Road and there are 3 residences on that road. There is a reasonable size beaver pond and an old stone culvert which goes across the road which is failing. The town has engaged an engineer for this project, and Roger has the final plans for review. They are looking to build a temporary culvert and a coffer dam to dry the area enough to put in a cement culvert with a headwall. It's a pretty significant project and Todd Mason of the DPW said he doesn't think they'll have the time to tackle it this year. Carol asked if the plan addressed the placement of the culvert in terms of height; Neal noted that it did. The challenge is that the residents want to keep the beaver pond; they don't want it drained completely. Karen feels that the NHDES will have a lot of say in this.

Roger noted that he had received an email from a resident of Slip Road who saw a snapping turtle trying to get through a culvert, and wanted the GCC to "order" the DPW to take the grate out of the culvert. Roger forwarded the email to Aaron Patt for further action.

Pollinator project update - Roger said the only thing not planted was a bunch of Black Eyed Susans that Bob Marshall gave them. The GCC would like to put them along the railroad embankment. Kate said she had extras that they were welcome to as well. Roger said that the Pollinator Project really didn't take off as well as he had hoped this year. Karen said we should find a way to give away seeds next year. Roger would like to get the elementary kids involved, maybe get the Library involved, too. Carol said it would be a good idea to invite someone in to advise the best way to do this. Neal asked what we wanted to achieve. Roger said we want to help the pollinators help us grow food and add flowers to the landscape. Neal said in order to increase awareness, we need to send the message out to the public.

Surface water conservation – This was discussed and deemed successful; as soon as it was posted, it started raining.

Well Water Testing Program Report- Roger said that this was very successful. The presenters were very pleased with the turn out. Roger said it's conceivable that we could offer it again next year.

Other Business:

Neal made a motion to adjourn; Carol seconded. All were in favor (4-0).
The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Greenfield Conservation Commission will be September 26, 2018 at 7:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Pack to Roger Lessard for approval, corrections, distribution, and posting.