

Greenfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Janice Pack

March 27, 2019

Attendees: Roger Lessard, Karen Day, Kate Dean, Candi Fowler, Carol Irvin

Absent: Stephanie Kokal

Dorene Adams was present to swear in the members for their new terms. Kate Dean was sworn in to the Conservation Commission for a 3-year term. Roger Lessard was sworn in to the EDAC. Dorene will complete the paperwork for Carol and Candi.

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

Roger stated that we have received the new NH Planning and Zoning Land Use book.

Accept or Amend Previous Meeting Minutes –Roger asked for a motion to accept; Carol moved to accept, and Candi seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

Action Items Update:

- Rick McQuade does not have a grill to use at the Recycling Center for the Roadside Round Up day. Roger will get one.
- Roger reached out to Jon Manley at the Contoocook North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee meeting, but they didn't have a chance to discuss plastics.
- He thought we could do something in conjunction with Bennington in June or July; he'll check with them.
- Regarding the Lead Exchange Program, he has not found one yet.
- Karen was going to research a pond float or race; she hasn't done that yet.
- Roger spoke to Rick McQuade regarding JCL Septic and any restrictions re planting wildflowers at the community leach field; he hasn't had a chance to speak to them yet.

NRI Review Status – Karen said that she has gotten the text finished. She sent that over to Henry Underwood at SWRPC, and also asked him a few questions about the maps. The ball is in his court now; we should hear from him by our May 22nd meeting.

Looking ahead, Roger noted that we will not hold a meeting in November; it will be held the first Wednesday in December instead.

New Boston Road Extension culvert replacement – This is a job that wasn't done properly by a prior DPW manager. The proper permitting wasn't obtained, and the Franconia Con Com reported that to NHDES. Now that the State is involved, they are recommending 2 parallel culverts. This will be done with the assistance of S R Jones Excavating of Antrim.

Karen asked what happened to the culvert on Dunklee Hill Road; this hasn't been done yet, but is scheduled.

Review GCC portion of the 2017 Master Plan – Roger said that the last 2 pages in the Master Plan mention the Action Items that the Conservation Commission is responsible for.

1. We are charged with annually reviewing the NHDES list of impaired water bodies in town and communicate with VLAP (Volunteer Lake Assessment Program) and VRAP (Volunteer River Assessment Program). The Town pays for testing for Sunset and Zephyr, and the State pays for Otter Lake. Roger said we'll need to find out which bodies of water are on this list. Carol then looked online, and reported that these are Zephyr Lake, Powdermill Pond, Rand Brook, and the unnamed brook where the storage units are going in. These are all considered low priority.
2. Develop water-based management plans for the lakes, ponds and rivers and work with the SWRPC or other non-profit commission to seek a 604B Grant
3. Begin and/or continue participation in groups such as VLAP, VRAP, Lake Host

This is the first time that the GCC has heard about these action items, and they feel that they should have been contacted in the beginning for their buy-in. Roger asked if anyone wanted to pursue this, and perhaps contact NHDES regarding any action we could take for Zephyr Lake. Carol will do that.

Roger read the other 4 items on the list, but decided to move forward with the other Agenda items tonight and table further discussion on the Master Plan action items.

Carol suggested that before the end of the year we make up a list of items that we CAN do and submit that for the next Master Plan.

The Perennial Calendar April/May – The Roadside Roundup is April 27th, and on May 11th at 7:00 AM we'll do the annual Reynolds Field Monitoring. This involves walking the perimeter to ensure that there are no easement violations, combined with some bird watching. Karen suggested breakfast at the Bennington restaurant afterward.

Planning the Roadside Roundup – This is scheduled for April 27th. Stephanie has offered to bring a canopy and set it up at the Recycling Center. We will offer coffee and pastries 8:00-10:30, and switch over to hot dogs, chips, and drinks then, until 2:00. Roger did speak to Recycling Center Supervisor Carol Burgess, and she is in favor of this. Candi has 2 pop up canopies that she can bring, too. Carol mentioned that GRC attendant Bill Gaudette gives a great tour of the Recycling Center. Candi said she would make blueberry muffins and Snickerdoodle cookies. Roger will bake something, as well. Karen suggested that Roger ask Carol Burgess if we can make the coffee right there. Karen and Carol will bring tables. Kate has a grill but doesn't have a way to get it there. Candi will volunteer for the early shift and will bring napkins. We will use recycled mugs to serve the coffee. Carol will do 12:30 to 2:00. Roger will pick up seltzer waters in aluminum cans. Roger will complete the NH the Beautiful form and have a select board member sign it, so we can get additional blue bags. He will also talk to the Postmaster, the Harvester, and the Library to see if we can leave blue bags there for people to pick up. Carol will try to find some public announcement flyers.

Programs – Karen said it would be nice if we had someone from Fish and Game to come and talk about the Lead Sinkers and Shot that is poisoning the loons. Perhaps someone from the Loon Preservation

Committee? Candi suggested looking at the fishleadfree.org website. She'd like to have a turtle awareness program in June, since that's when turtles typically cross roads in search of a place to lay their eggs. Maybe we could get turtle expert David Carroll to come?

Roger will follow up on a date in August for the Water Testing. He suggested that we hold the program on the 5th and the collection on the 11th.

Candi asked if anyone wanted to be a Citizen Scientist to sign up to count monarch butterflies. She will send the information to the other members.

Karen asked how much money we have in Programs. Roger said \$600. Karen suggested that St. Anselm professor Barry Wicklow might do a program for free. Candi said the best time to do a butterfly program would be in September. She will check with Library Director Bev Pietlicki to see if she has dates available. Carol asked her to write a little article for THE SPIRIT.

Pollinator Project Update— Roger said that Monday afternoon, April 1st, he and Kate will be meeting with county forester Ethan Belair at Meadow Park. GCC has received a letter from the Student Conservation Association, which is seeking projects for a crew of 6-7 people over an 11 day period this between June and October. We talked about where to purchase the blueberry bushes, and making them available to the public, too.

Karen talked about planting some at Oak Park.

Other Business:

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm on a motion from Roger; seconded by all.

The next regular meeting of the Greenfield Conservation Commission will be April 24, 2019 at 7:30 pm.