

Greenfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2021

Recorded by Michelle Hall

Members Attending: Karen Day, Kate Dean, Carol Irvin, Stephanie Kokal, Roger Lessard

Guest Attending: Hunter Carbee of The Forest Society, Diane Boilard and David Bridgewater of the Stephenson Memorial Library

7:00 pm Chairman Roger called meeting to order.

Accept or Amend Previous Meeting Minutes

Karen motioned to accept previous meeting minutes, seconded by Carol. All were in favor.

Combined Promotion of Educational Aspect of Emma Gipson Forest Timber Harvest with SPNHF and Stephenson Memorial Library

Hunter Carbee recounted some history of the Emma Gibson Forest and what the Forest Society would like to do to maintain and preserve the forest. He explained that there is a new owner of an abutting property of the forest, who has agreed to allow its use as the landing for a proposed cut.

Hunter went on to explain that the Forest Society has hired D.H. Hardwick & Sons to cut and trim some of the mature white pine, as well as some maple and other hardwood, in an effort to allow light to reach the forest floor. The crews will work to limit the amount of ground disturbance while completing the work needed.

Hunter explained that the Forest Society believes that this maintenance would be a great opportunity for education, as this will not happen again for many years. The Forest Society welcomes the GCC to be as much a part of this process as it is willing.

The Forest Society could write up something for The Spirit and Hunter will talk with Gabe Roxby, Forester for The Forest Society, tomorrow about this. The GCC could contact the NH Association of Conservation Commissions to see about letting people know about this project.

The GCC discussed further and is willing to promote the project. It could team up with the library to work together on this project.

Approval of Support for CNBRLAC Grant Application – Roger

Roger explained that the CNBRLAC is applying for a \$5000 matching grant to support the revision of its river corridor plan. CNBRLAC is soliciting letters of support from conservation commissions along the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers. Roger will draft such a letter, which needs to be submitted by September 15. Stephanie motioned to approve, seconded by Carol. All were in favor.

Pollinator Project Meadow Park, next steps – All

Roger lifted some corners of the black plastic to check how well the vegetation has been eliminated. It is all dirt underneath now. He will contact High Mowing Seeds to see when the seeds, still owed to the GCC, will be available. The GCC suggested that the field not be mowed until November, after it has been seeded. GCC will wait until April-June to lay the black plastic on the other parts of the field. All of the butterfly weeds have taken root, and appear to be doing well. Stephanie stated that a neighboring property owner has blocked the gate, near the church ministry building, with brush cuttings. Karen will contact Jim Morris and Rick McQuade to inform them of this.

NHACC Handbooks

Roger announced that the NHACC has completed the new handbooks, which are now available for purchase. Roger motioned that the GCC purchase 7 copies, seconded by Karen. All were in favor.

Stephanie motioned to adjourn at 8:15 pm, seconded by Carol.