

Greenfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2023

Recorded by Michelle Hall

Members Attending: Karen Day, Kate Dean, David Hall, Kristine Hall, Tom Bregani

Excused Members: Candi Fowler, Brenda Gollihue

Guests Attending: Dave Thimmel, Shannon Billodeau from the Oak Park Committee

7:00 pm Karen called the meeting to order.

Accept or Amend Previous Meeting Minutes

David motioned to accept previous meeting minutes. Seconded by Kate. Motion passed, all were in favor.

1. Ongoing Pollinator Garden Project

Dave and Shannon attended tonight's meeting to go over a possible planting location at Oak Park for a pollinator garden near the tennis court and track. Karen explained that the GCC has a contract with Moosewood Ecological and are able to purchase started plants for a community planting event through them. This is something that the Oak Park Committee would consider and plan. Shannon said that this event might be good during the Spring clean-up at the park.

It was recommended that work start to break up the ground now. Dave will be at Oak Park this weekend and able to meet a GCC member to stake out the proposed area. David Hall offered to help him do that. Dave said that he's had good luck with applying wood chips and horse manure on a planting bed to get it started. He thinks he can borrow a machine to rototill the soil and get horse manure to start amending the area. He will reach out to the DPW for some wood chips as well. This is all in preparation for Spring planting. Karen will contact Moosewood for a list of plants they are able to get and will get back to Dave.

Current Business:

1. Hazards at the Blacksmith parking lot

o Research and new information –

Tom explained that he had talked with Ray Cilley who recommended he reach out to the Southwest Planning about this problem. He did and spoke with J.B. Mack who told him that the town would be eligible for an assessment and a possible grant to deal with this issue. Should the GCC go before the Selectboard, J.B. Mack is willing to attend and help to explain the process. He offered to help Tom with information for the formal letter to the Selectboard as well. He said that the NH Dept. of Environmental Services (NHDES) is also very willing to help with this type of thing. Kate related her positive experiences with NHDES with a buried oil tank and said that they came and removed it without any cost to her.

2. Next Program

o August 17th – Solar Power

o Do we need a projector? David will find out if one is needed but there is one at the library and he has one of his own. If needed.

o Refreshments? Kristine is able to make something. Karen said she will too.

o Help with setting up chairs? Karen asked for everyone to arrive early to help with this.

o Sign-up Genius is set up – Karen will let Kristine know how many people sign up.

3. Next articles for the Spirit
 - Solar Article – already submitted for Aug/Sept
 - Hikes – deadline September 1st for the Oct/Nov issue, Brenda volunteered to take multiple articles and turn them into one. Karen asked for everyone to get those to her as soon as possible. There should not be any more than two pages.
 4. Our contact list – Mailchimp?
 - Should we set this up and launch? Karen will load the email list up but is not sure when it will be ready to launch.
 5. Advertising for our programs – The GCC added some additional items to the list
 - Our Email list (included other Conservation Commissions)
 - Town Facebook page – Brenda will take care of this.
 - The Spirit
 - Newspapers
 - Library email list
 - Town Webpage
 - Any others? Mailchimp, Twitter, Instagram,
 - Posters – Possible places: Harvester Market, Post Office, Town common sign, Town hall, Recycling Center, The Harris Center, Seven Hills, Plow Share Farm, The Monadnock Paper Mill – Karen and David will reach out to them.
 6. Change of ConComm email address

Karen said that she's tried to use Gmail but finds that it is difficult to use for her because she can't get on when she needs to. Shel also thinks that having a Town email address is a better solution since we are a department of the Town. Karen asked if everyone thinks it's a good idea to have Town email addresses and said that the cost is \$5 a month for each one. Previously we had discussed a separate address for programs. Everyone thought we should move forward with this. Karen will reach out to Aaron to see about obtaining a town email for the GCC and another for programs.
 7. Memorial Garden at Crotched Mountain

Kate explained that the Master Gardeners have planted a lot of items and turned a lot of soil, Moosewood surveyed at this location. The gardeners are wanting to install signs on the mountain to explain to people what has happened at this location and what is in the works to happen with some QR codes as well. The Master Gardeners are looking for some input as to what to put on these signs. The GCC recommended that she talk with a few local folks, especially Lenny Cornwell of the Historical Society, to get more information on the history, such as the farm which was once there.

 - Karen asked if anyone had anything else to discuss. No one offered anything.
- 8:00 pm Kristine motioned to adjourn. Seconded by David. All were in favor, motion passed. The next meeting of the GCC will be August 23rd, 7pm upstairs at the Town Offices.