

Greenfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Michelle Hall

August 28, 2019

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

Absent Members: Candi Fowler

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairperson Roger Lessard.

Accept or Amend Previous Meeting Minutes:

The GCC unanimously agreed to accept the minutes as printed.

Pollinator Project Meadow Park update – Kate

Kate reported that she has received 1 pound and 112 grams of seeds. She went on to explain that High Mowing Organic Seeds is waiting for a check for \$80, before sending 400 packs of flower seeds approximating 10 pounds. Roger will ask Catherine Shaw to draw \$80 from the GCC postage line item of the budget for this purpose. The GCC will need to purchase another 10 lbs of seed. The GCC discussed purchasing straw to cover the seeds after planting. They discussed changing the sowing date from 9-14 to 9-29. Karen Day will contact Rick McQuade to inform him of the date change. Roger will check with Blue Seal Feeds, Tractor Supply and Achille Agway for seed prices and/or donations.

Butterfly Program – Candi

Roger discussed that the date has been moved to 9-28 at 10:30 am.

Bear Program, planning

The program will take place on September 26th, Roger will contact Bill Kilham and Catherine Shaw in order to coordinate payment for the program.

Plastics Reduction Project – Roger

Roger would like to see the library discontinue the use of single-use water bottles and styrofoam cups in the Wensberg Meeting Room. Roger explained how he looked into the Terracycle program, and determined that it is better to educate our citizens to avoid purchasing single-use plastic packaged items in the first place, rather than to implement the cumbersome process of collecting and returning items which are not normally recycled. The GCC setting up an educational display at town meeting day, maybe a pamphlet with some ideas for reducing the use of plastics.

Town held easement monitoring

Roger explained that Reynolds field monitoring was not done last May because no one showed up at the appointed time. He proposed that we move this annual obligation to the fall, when there are no black flies, and to discontinue the bird watching aspect, since it does not seem to attract any interest outside of the commission members. He suggested that October 5th at 10 am would be a good time to walk the perimeter of Reynolds Field and then to consider walking the other easements, weather permitting, and if we can determine where the boundaries are. Town forester Karla Allen may be able to help, as she

knows how to read the deeds and how to find the boundaries. The GCC discussed that there is not any way, currently, to track all the easements in town but they would like to start this process for future generations.

Plantings around town parking lot adjacent to the former Cragin's Auto Repair

The area is right next to the garage which was just purchased. There are 2 light poles there. Bob Marshall is interested in having the GCC's recommendations of what types of shrubs would be appropriate to screen the electrical service panel for the light poles. The town would like for it to be low maintenance and tough enough to stand up to snow plowing. There is also interest in planting something which flowers in the spring and bears fruit later, between the sidewalk and the parking lot. Kate will take a look at the lot and get an idea what plants or trees may be a good idea for planting.

8:38 pm Roger adjourned the meeting. The next regular business meeting of the GCC will be on September 25th at 7:30 pm.