

Greenfield Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Recorded by Michelle Hall

January 22, 2020

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

Absent Members: Candi Fowler, Stephanie Kokal

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

Neal Brown- Sunset Lake Association Proposal

Neal Brown explained to The GCC that he, and some neighbors, would like to start a lake association for the Sunset Lake community, following the Environmental Lake Association guidelines. Neal went on to explain that he has contacted his neighbors, and there is about an 80% interest in the proposal of an association for the 37-acre lake. Neal explained that they may be able to use the Crotched Mountain facility on the lake for its yearly meetings. Neal believes that there will be a need to adopt by-laws and create pertinent material. Neal then explained that there is a problem with the amount of road salt making it into the lake through the water table. A lake association would be able to group together to come before the NHDOT to discuss ideas of remedial measures. Neal would like to get things rolling with this before the summer. The consensus of the GCC was that they would be interested in supporting the establishment of the proposed lake association and, because the town is the second largest land holder along the lake shore, having the GCC become a member, and sending a representative to meetings.

Accept or Amend Previous Meeting Minutes

The GCC all agreed with the previous meeting's minutes. Karen motioned to accept minutes as written. Seconded by Carol.

2020 Budget

The GCC discussed the budget for 2020 and made some adjustments.

Pollinator Project - Meadow Park Informational Kiosk- Kate

Kate explained that there were some surplus donated seeds, mostly vegetable seeds, which are not needed for the wildflower meadow project. The GCC discussed donating them to local groups, the community garden, or to local citizens through the library. Kate has a friend who is willing to design the kiosk at no charge to the GCC. Someone will need to build it, though.

Planning Meadow Park - Blue Bird Houses

Roger shared his idea to install bluebird houses around the perimeter of Meadow Park. The bluebird can be made from any unpainted scrap wood, such as pine. A couple of town residents were suggested as prospects to approach about becoming involved in this project.

Butterfly bushes may be a good plant to be introduced along the current fence line, after that structure is removed. Then, boulders could be placed in between them. Roger will sketch a draft proposal for Meadow Park which he will present to the select board.

Wood Duck Boxes

The GCC discussed the creation of a wood duck box program, similar to that of the Deering Conservation Commission, which includes annual monitoring, inventory, repair/replacement, utilization, all culminating in an annual report. Due to the remote placement of these nesting boxes, they should be made with unpainted cedar or cypress. Treated wood and/or plywood should not be used, in order to avoid exposure to potential toxins. Various locations were suggested as likely candidates for their installation.

Forestry Committee- Update

The proposed timber harvest has been put out to bid, with only one bid coming in. The Greenfield Sportsman's club is willing to pay someone to cut the wood, because they want it cleared out in order to build their clubhouse. There have not been any signs of cutting nor any intent-to-cut permits submitted.

Winter Program

Roger stated that the NH Fish and Game put on a presentation on bobcats at the Fuller Library in Hillsboro. Roger would like to check with our library to determine available dates for a similar program, and will coordinate with the presenters to find a mutually agreeable program date.

Announcements

Roger has started to write an article to educate the public about the need to stop using single-use plastics for inclusion in The Greenfield Spirit.

Roger adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm. The next regular business meeting of the GCC will be on February 26, 2020 at 7:30 pm.