

Guilford Conservation Commission Meeting May 19, 2016

Attending: Bill Jewell, Bevan Quinn, Marli Rabinowitz, Linda Hecker, Karen Murphy, David Gessner

Not Attending: Linda Lembke, Rory Lincoln, Susan James, Gabby Ciuffreda

Meeting called to order at 5:05

Accepted minutes from April 14, 2016

There is a Planning Commission meeting on June 10 at the Grange with the focus on town wide communication. Some of us will be attending and Linda Hecker will bring our recreation and plant invasive species flyers, the mission statement and the annual report.

Weeks Forest Trail Update:

- The town road crew did a fabulous job of placing a culvert and rock lined ditch at the entrance of the trail. They also created a parking area that can accommodate four cars.
- Karen and Shaun Murphy and David Gessner spent a morning working on plant invasives. One new one has appeared, garlic mustard, but it is blooming now, easy to spot and very easy to pull up. They also worked on barberry, bittersweet, honeysuckle, multiflora rose and to some extent on buckthorn.
- Mike T will try to get to the waterfall area by mid-June.

Another work day is planned for Sunday, June 5 at 8:30 AM. Jobs to do include digging holes for posts, assembling benches, and as always, trying to eliminate invasive plant species.

Weeks Forest Trail Grand Opening July 2 Freedom Fest:

We discussed plans for the day which will probably include a table at the grange and also at the schoolhouse. We thought we could have “ribbon cutting” around 11AM. Perhaps some of the Forest Friday 6th grade students might like to act as trail guides.

The new town Recreation Commission chair has been in touch with Gabby, David and Linda L to update our 250th recreation brochure. Someone from this new commission will attend our June meeting.

Reports form informational meetings:

- David G and Bill J attended the Water Resilience meeting in Wilmington in early May. Steve Lembke, the town’s flood plain coordinator, is well informed of the issues. One of the topics of pertinent interest is the concepts of river corridors and river dynamic equilibrium. Bill and Steve are planning to bring the info to the select board.
- Dummerston CC had two presentations on plant invasive species with Chris Polatin as the speaker. Both presentations may be seen on BCTV.

Natural Resources Inventory:

Susan James will double check with Michelle Freshee from the Planning Commission about any plans to submit a Municipal Planning Grant this fall. If not, we all agreed that it would be a good idea to resubmit our application from last year. John Bennett from WRC also agrees as he thinks it is a strong application.

We tabled a discussion about conservation easements until June.

Next meeting is June 16th at 5 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murphy
Clerk, Guilford Conservation Commission