

Guilford conservation Commission Meeting June 18, 2015

Attending: Linda Hecker, Linda Lembke, Rory Lincoln, Susan James, Bill Jewell, Bevan Quinn, Gabby Ciuffreda, Marli Rabinowitz, Karen Murphy

Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM.

Agenda order changed to reflect a time priority.

Minutes from May 21, 2015 accepted.

Susan James reported on the progress of the Natural Resources Inventory. Gabby Ciuffreda reported that the select board supports moving forward with the inventory and that it comes at an opportune time as several solar installations are being planned in Guilford and residents are thinking about land use. The inventory will reflect what resources we presently have in our town.

Susan has been in communication with the CCs in Cornwall and Plainfield Vermont and also Brett Engstrom. She received helpful advice from all three. One of our strong assets is that the GCC and the PC have been working closely together on the town's natural resource section of the town plan. Susan is taking the lead on applying for the Municipal Planning Grant which is due in September and notification of any approval will come in December. If the GCC does receive this grant there will be steps that will need to be taken to implement the grant including putting out a bid to Arrowwood Environmental and Brett Engstrom. There are other smaller grants that are due in October and Susan is researching them.

The GCC has received a \$500 AVCC Tiny Grant. This is intended to help us develop the Weeks Forest Trail in Guilford Center. Linda Lembke gave us a guideline/time frame to help us do this work which includes: Planning, Trail Work, Trail Guide & Logbook, Communication, and Evaluation. Various members have already taken on some of these tasks. The hope is that this new trail will inspire others in town to form a Trails Development Committee.

We reviewed the June 10th mapping presentation by Jeff Nugent which is one aspect of the Forest Stewardship Grant that the WRC has been working on. Some of these maps will be useful for the Weeks Forest Trail.

Bill Jewell will be working on a policy statement and a collection of resources to help landowners and the town road crew use best practices for invasives management and roadside mowing work. He has agreed to be the GCC's point person for questions concerning invasive plant species.

Next Walk: Weeks Forest Trail on Sunday, July 12th at 4 PM. Please park at the Grange and walk to the trail head.

Next Meeting is July 16 at 5 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy Clerk Guilford Conservation Commission

