

Guilford Conservation Commission Meeting October 20, 2016

Attending: Linda Hecker, Linda Lembke, Susan James, Bill Jewell, David Gessner, Gabby Cuiffreda, Karen Murphy

Not attending: Rory Lincoln, Bevan Quinn, Marli Rabinowitz

Meeting called to order at 5:10.

Adjustment to agenda: add Communications

On motion the minutes from September 15 were accepted.

Communications: GPI Inc. hired Mike Tkaczuk to use his mulching machine on the GPI land. An impressive amount of invasive plants were cut down opening up long overgrown areas.

We voted unanimously to write a letter in support of the Windham Regional Commission in their effort to obtain an ERP grant to work on areas identified by the Green River geomorphic study which includes the Gorman property.

Bill described a green energy project called the Living Community Challenge (from the International Living Future Institute) that would designate Algiers as a "Rural Village." For more info: [Living Community Challenge: http://living-future.org/lcc](http://living-future.org/lcc).

Natural Resources Inventory

Susan James submitted the Municipal Planning Grant the first week of October. We should learn by December if it is accepted. The members of the commission thanked Susan for all the work that she did. Also thanks were given to Linda H, Linda L, and Katie Buckley for editing.

November 17 Joint Conservation Commission meeting at the Guilford Community Church 5:30 to 8 PM.

Linda Lembke is updating the info of CC's chairs and other interested groups. Linda H will resend the invitation.

Linda L will confirm with Jeff Nugent and Joan Weir re their presentation.

Jobs were delegated as to drinks, etc. Everyone will help with the setup and clean up.

Dropbox storage:

If your personal Dropbox is full, try referring a friend(s) as a way to gain more storage capacity. Please do not delete files as it affects everyone.

Posting Events to the new town website: The commission is hopeful that Marli Rabinowitz will represent the GCC and post our events on the website.

Trails Committee report:

After discussion we decided to work on new trails that are already designated as trails on the VTrans map. These trails have public access. Gaining public access on private property can come at a later time, using the VAST model.

Our next trail work will be on the Sweet Pond/Borkowski Road.

Weeks Forest Carriage trail:

By all accounts this is a well- used trail. We voted to designate \$30 dollars to purchase stumps from Blue Sky to install a new bench closer to the trail head.

The maintenance work day included some of our commissioners and a few local volunteers. The 6th graders discovered a patch of knotweed which was cut down and hauled off. Linda L suggested that we hire someone to work on a regular schedule to keep the knotweed under control. The commissioners approved of this idea.

Future walks:

There will be no walks until January to avoid hunting season and the busy holiday season.

Our next proposed walk is on Sunday, January 8 at 10 AM. We will meet at David and Leah Gessner home. We hope to explore the fen on Creamery Road and then explore nearby ravines and walk along the ridge to Memorial Park.

Other business:

Investigate the classification of the Creamery Road Fen and the Green River. Put on December meeting agenda.

Add Communications to the regular agenda.

Next meeting is November 17th at the Guilford Community Church at 5:30.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy

Clerk Guilford Conservation Commission