

**Stratham Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Public Session
March 24th, 2021**

Conservation Commission Members Present: Bill McCarthy, Ana Egana, Allison Knab, Bob Keating, Brad Jones, Dan McAuliffe, Kyle Saltonstall, Bill Kenny

Non-Members Present: Seth Hickey, Kyle Hollasch

Meeting Called to order @ 7:02 PM

New Business:

CC minutes:

23-Feb-2021 Public: Bob Keating moved; Kyle Saltonstall second – motion passed unanimously.

Mail:

No mail.

Rain Barrels and Compost Bins:

Bill Kenny provided an update. We have received pre-orders and payments for 7 compost bins and 5 rain barrels

Exeter Garden Club Tree Donation

Received a communication from Pat Elwell that the Exeter Garden Club was offering a tree donation to Stratham. Seth offered to help in providing a recommendation for the location to place the tree. Bill McCarthy to send Seth the e-mail with the information we have received.

Improving communication with the public:

The public doesn't seem to have a full understanding about the public's right-of-use for the different conserved lands in town. Those rights are specific to each property and the details are described in the easement language. Some of this information is provided in the town website. The town staff have been working in generating a document that will provide guidance on this topic to the public. In addition, several other initiatives were discussed such as: 1) Writing about the topic in an article for Stratham Magazine. 2) A letter to the editor in the local newspaper on the topic. 3) Evaluating how other towns in the area tackle this issue and follow some of their practices. 4) Reaching out to conservation organizations such as SELT or RCCD to see what type of guidance they provide to towns which want to accomplish this educational goal. 5) Having an educational reach out initiative in one of the town public events this year.

Old Business:

Town Roadside Cleanup Day

The chosen date is April 17th with a potential rain date of April 24th. We will only be distributing chocolate donated by Lindt this year. The dumpster and pavilion will need to be reserved. As previous years, blue bags will be distributed to people with working gloves and vests donated by Brad Jones. A banner announcing the date will be placed at Stratham Hill Park and a posting in facebook and flyers distributed in schools will be used to inform the public of the event.

Town Updates:

Source Water Protection Plan:

Allison Knab and Kyle Saltonstall are working with the team in this project. There will be a meeting at 4 pm on April 30th in the Public Room. Allison will share a draft with CC once it is ready for the public. Is source water protection one of the variables considered in the conservation assessment checklist?

Reappointment of Terms:

Bill McCarthy – Motion to reappoint moved by Allison Knab; Dan McAuliffe second - motion passed unanimously.

Vice- Chair – Motion to appoint Bill Kenny moved by Ana Egana; Brad Jones second – motion passed unanimously.

Secretary – Motion to reappoint Ana Egana moved by Allison Knab; Bill McCarthy second – motion passed unanimously

No selection for Chair was made.

7:59 PM

Ana Egana moved to enter Non-Public Session to discuss real estate options, Dan McAuliffe second - motion passed unanimously.

8:26 PM

Allison Knab moved to exit Non-Public Session and seal the minutes, Ana Egana second - motion passed unanimously.

8:27 PM

Ana Egana moved to adjourn, Brad Jones second– motion passed unanimously; Meeting adjourned

Next regular meeting scheduled for 7 PM on Wednesday, April 28th at the Municipal Center and via teleconference.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ana Egana

Serving as Secretary