

**Stratham Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Public Session
May 26th, 2021**

Conservation Commission Members Present: Bill Kenny, Bill McCarthy, Ana Egana, Allison Knab, Brad Jones.

Non-Members Present: Mark Connor

Meeting Called to order @ 7:04 PM

New Business:

CC minutes:

28-Apr-2021 Public and Non-Public: Bob McCarthy moved to accept as written; Brad Jones second – motion passed unanimously.

Mail:

No mail.

CC Handbook:

Bill Kenny and Mark Connor made copies of the CC Handbook and provided each member of the commission who attended one copy. This handbook has proven to be a great resource for new members in the past and provides guidelines for the functioning of the commission

Farm List:

Mark Connor brought to the attention of the CC the list of farms that are shown in the town website. He provided a copy to the members with the updates that he made. There was a review of the list, and a discussion about any other farms that needed to be added.

Trail Management Committee:

Bill McCarthy provided an update on the activities of this committee. They met with Lew Shelley to go over the proposed trail management plan and ask additional questions. The chair, Scott Zeller of the committee is putting a site-walk of the park together. July is the deadline to provide the selectman a high-level report outlining the priorities for trail management.

Pump Track Site-Walk

Allison Knab participated in the site-walk. Velokids proposed to update it. They have engaged a professional to do it and will start fundraising for this project.

Sun Dial on Stratham Hill Park

It is in disrepair and needs to be rebuilt. Braden Blood has proposed this as part of his Eagle Scout Project. The project has been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Firepit in Stratham Hill Park

Bill McCarthy reported that an unapproved firepit was discovered in Stratham Hill Park close to where the beavers reside. In addition to the firepit, an unapproved trail was made to access the firepit from the pond. There was clear evidence that the firepit had been actively used. Seth Hickey is aware of the situation and the firepit will be removed.

Old Business:

Herberts Proposal – Property Access Exchange

The Herberts had proposed to have an access exchange between them and the town as the access to their property was over wetlands and there was a town property close to theirs that could be used as an alternative access, with lower impact. The town was not open to this proposal.

Perhaps the open space plan could incorporate plans for usage for these town owned properties that are not currently conserved.

Compost Bins and Rain Barrells Distribution

Bill Kenny and Tim Copeland distributed the compost bins and rain barrels on April 24th (8-11:30 AM). They sold and distributed 30 rain barrels and 29 (out of 40) compost bins. The extras are currently located at the Town Maintenance Facility.

Town Updates:

None

7:32 PM

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

8:00 PM

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

8:01 PM

Bill McCarthy moved to adjourn, Brad Jones second— motion passed unanimously; Meeting adjourned

Next regular meeting scheduled for 7 PM on Wednesday, June 23rd at the Municipal Center and via teleconference.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ana Egana

Serving as Secretary