



Agenda Bolton Conservation Commission
Bolton Town Offices
Theodore Roosevelt Highway Route 2, Bolton
Monday , April 10th , 2017
6 – 8 p.m.

Draft minutes

Present: Virginia Haviland, Ali Kosiba, Gary Urban, Amy Ludwin, Steve McLeod Absent: Jerry Mullen

Guests: Miranda Grover (note taker), Ethan Tapper

1. Call to order. Welcome Gary Urban to the CC.

Gary's introduction-- wants to learn about Bolton's land and actively participate in the commission to help protect lands for future use.

2. Additions or deletions to the agenda

Jerry's previous item from January, 45 yds. of gravel (will revisit when he is at a meeting).

SB has approved and funded for a future secretary.

"Harvesting plants" sign for fiddle season → Ali has been in touch with SB.

3. Public comment

No comments.

4. Conflict of interests?

No conflicts of interests.

5. Approval of past 2 meetings minutes. Approved by all.

6. Approval of the Conservation Fund Policy as approved by the SB.

Steve makes a motion to approve, Virginia seconds. No discussion. All in favor of the Official Conservation Fund Policy.

7. Ethan Tapper new County Forester 6:30.

Here to introduce himself, and to check in /discussion of the PPCA Forest management plan, to answer questions. Once the plan is passed by SB, the things prescribed in the management plan will actually be managed. Communication about this with Town members, out reach ideas.

Timeline discussion: It is possible to get started on working on the items in the management plan by the summer/fall. Looking at all the trails will definitely happen this summer (by BCC and foresters). Ethan is available for consultation in other forestry areas besides Preston Pond,

private land owners, and other Town owned parcels, but Town Owned parcels could be harder to work on without a management plan of those areas, so that might need to be developed if we wanted that. Role of VLT in PPCA . Ethan could attend the SB meeting on 6/19, we'll ask the SB if they would like him to attend. He'll write something in the Bolton Gazette, will send to Ali to include in the May issue. It is possible to get money from the Clean up Lake Champlain organization to help with erosion area in PPCA. Longer term issue to look at the section of the VAST trail that is flooded . Another to look into: forested land near Snipe Ireland/Island road, has little access. Opportunities for BCC to communicate with other towns about their forest management plans.

8. PPCA MP -

~Brian M. biking attachments, future role.

Reached out to Andrew Churchill to get permission for mountain biking on the PP trails, waiting to hear back on details. This item is on hold until Brian hears back from Churchill. Brian is happy to be a "bike ambassador", be the point person for maintaining Churchill permission for biking. Contact person for Ali as Steward.

~Trail relocation of Libby's Look, news re:grant funding.

No news on grant. Amy Grover got news that MMU Students are interested in trail work around Preston Pond on May 19th, Gary Urban will be in touch about this/could help guide the kids; with input from Ali.

~Steve report on dogs on trails and hunting seasons

Quick update. CC leaving this to the select board to discuss, and we are all ok with limitation of dogs on trails in hunting seasons per SB's wishes/ wording.

~Wording ck re: fresh signs of.

3.2.1 page 18 wording about deer and beaver sighting, ' fresh signs of'. Can leave as is, but seems like currently it's an untrue sentence. Similar wording discrepancies on page 10. Letting go of the need for those details to be exact, let the SB review it as is. We do want to change small grammar issues in a few places, such as a double word error, VLT needing to be added. Make a list of items to send to SB by the end of April. Only things like run-on sentences, grammar will be listed as updated suggestions. Virginia and Ali will review, They will send these edit / suggestions fixes to Amy Ludwin to send to SB.

9. Floodplain Inventory.

Everyone has looked at floodplain maps and the narrative. Will check it in more detail at our next meeting. Planning for Arrowwood Environmental presentation to the boards and public. Educational opportunity, costs \$250 from annual budget. Possible date is Monday May 8th. Amy L proposes approval of \$250 and Arrowwood presentation, Virginia seconds, all in favor.

10. Smilie Stormwater Mitigation Projects.

Virginia and Amy met with Julie, Sean and Brandon from Friends of Winooski, and Barbara from the school. Grant is to take out top 4 inches of gravel at the immediate left by the entrance, plan is to have this returned to grass/mulch. Barriers to cars on the back 2/3 but snowmobiles could have access. At front entrance, runoff from roof→ make a rain garden. East side of school has lots of runoff from roof; the way to manage runoff is planned and ready to be put in place as part of the grant, it was tweaked from some on site analysis with new environmental engineer and will be a rain garden type of design with overflow runoff to the storm drain nearby.

11. AVCC Tiny Grants. Sue Morse Talk.

Amy applied for a \$250 AVCC Tiny grant to have Sue talk in town, she has a grant for

\$250 as well. Total cost is \$500. Waiting to hear back from this.

12. Items for next meeting.

VRC wants to buy the Pot Holes. VRC is interested for conservation interests. VRC contacted the town in 2012 about this purchase, Re: Ownership but the town was not interested at that time. SB has been notified too.

Floodplain, Grant for PPCA, Harvesting notices, Smilie update, Biking at VAST trail, Ethan Tapper and Clean Up Lake Champlain Grant, PPCA MP , Future Secretary.

13. Closing

Steve moves we adjourn, Virginia seconds, all in favor! Next meeting June 12. Will be held at the Town Office 6-8 pm

These minutes are unofficial until accepted.

These minutes were read and accepted by a quorum of the Conservation Commission on;

For the Conservation Commission