

Bolton Conservation Commission Bolton Town
Office September 15, 2014

Present: Amy Ludwin, Lars Botzjorns, Ken Remsen, Steve McLeod, Larissa Urban
Guests: Duncan Galbraith, Linda Baker

Meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Minutes of the May 19, 2014 meeting** - approved without changes.
2. **Town Plan Revision** - Linda Baker of the PC is writing the natural resources section for the revision of the town plan. She is asking the BCC to comment on her draft prior to October 13. She also wants feedback on the current plan's natural resources goals.
3. **Community Clean-up Fund** - CSWD has up to \$1500 available for various projects in Bolton. Duncan Galbraith, Bolton's CSWD representative, suggests a site on Route 2 near Jonesville containing a defunct trailer home and collapsed garage which may be a candidate. The funds would be used for hauling away the debris if volunteers helped to disassemble it. Duncan will pursue more information about the current landowner and his/her intent with the property or its structures. There was general concern about focusing the effort on a single private parcel. Steve suggested getting other ideas for use of the funds via Front Porch Forum/ Bolton Gazette. He will submit articles for both. Duncan said he would make the final determination on proposals from the Town. Amy asked about using the funds to help cover the Town's costs for Green- Up Day, or perhaps clean-up of the Potholes or the Winooski River.
4. **Next meeting date:** Both Jens Hilke, from the VT Dep't of Fish and Wildlife, to present the final version of the Tiered Ecological Priorities map, and Ali Kosiba, Bolton resident

and Bolton's Forest Pest Detector, are available on October 27 to meet with the BCC. All present agreed that our next official meeting should shift to that date from November.

5. **Joiner Brook Corridor Management Plan** - The Commission discussed how to proceed with the recommendations in the 2009 plan; whether to propose projects to the Select Board, incorporate corridor protection and restoration measures into the revised Town plan and zoning regulations, and/or to work with other groups (e.g., Norwich University student project to study stormwater mitigation at Smilie School) to study specific plans. Joiner Brook and Honey Hollow Brook have had the most issues with fluvial erosion events. Lars will contact the Vermont River Management Program for any updates to recommended setback standards (esp. post-Irene). The BCC will work on integrating the Joiner Brook plan recommendations into the draft NR section of the Town Plan.
6. **Friends of the Winooski** - Amy updated the Commission on FOW activity in Bolton. A recent rainbarrel workshop attracted 15 people, including some Bolton residents. No further programs are planned in Bolton at this time. Ann from the FOW has connected a Professor

from Norwich and her her engineering class with Smilie School. They've met with Smilie's Principal, and starting in October the professor and class will begin to identify and design stormwater mitigation practices for the site. Smilie students will be engaged in this process. There will most likely be a school, possibly a public presentation, on it late in the fall semester. With designs in hand, the Friends of the Winooski group plan to look for funding to install the practices. One is likely to be a cistern that collects water from the pitched metal roof. This water could be stored near the gardens and used for watering. Other than the Smilie projects, things will be pretty quiet until spring.

7. **Keeping Track program** - A total of \$250 of funding is needed for the program to proceed (among the four town area). The BCC is prepared to spend \$50 in support of the program.
8. **Preston Pond Conservation Area** - Quinn Keating would like to resign from his position as Forest Steward but may still be interested in overseeing the Vermont Trails Grant project this fall. Lars will contact Joss Besse to see if he is interested in being the Steward. The position may be shared among different people (e.g., trail maintenance, patrolling, outreach), provided each person feels well-informed about PPCA management.
9. **Next meeting agenda** (Oct. 27): Tiered Ecological Priorities map (Jens Hilke), Forest Pest Detection Program (Ali Kosiba), Town Plan revision, CSWD project.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lars Botzjorns

Approved 10/27/2014.