

Town of Bolton
Conservation Commission Minutes
August 19, 2019

Board Members Present: Amy Ludwin, Jerry Mullen, Steve McLeod
Board Members Absent: Virginia Haviland
Guests: Sharon Murray, Deb Shelby, Rob Mullen
Clerk: Paula Gervia

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Amy at 6:02 pm.

2. Additions or Deletions to the agenda and Conflict of Interest

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Steve made the motion to approve minutes of 07-29-19, Amy seconded, motion was approved (3-0).

5. General Business

- PPCA
 - Trails grant - trail relocation ideas. Rob and Amy will check in to walk the area if possible.
 - VLT visit - Rob walked area with VLT.
 - Trail marking/blazing - allotted \$400.00 to have someone perform this work. Steve made motion to hire Rob Mullen to perform scope of work, at price of \$20.00/hour up to \$400.00, Jerry seconded, motion passed (3-0).
 - Drone use - covered with SelectBoard meeting. Use at minimum for management purposes.
 - CC members joined portion of SelectBoard meeting to hear public request re: sugaring on part of PPCA. Waiting to hear what decision SelectBoard makes. Steve made motion - subject to no undue administrative burden to town, subject to be within the scope the town approves, subject to having Ethan Tapper available through state duties to perform necessary efforts of forestry oversight (2x/year) to have conservation committee

conceptually support sugaring process on PPCA, Jerry seconded and motion approved (2-1).

- Sara Holbrook
 - Appointment of second Steward - Steve made the motion to appoint Pamela Gude to be co-Steward with Sharon Murray, Amy seconded, motion was approved (3-0).
 - Sharon discussed observations of property. Tries to walk around it weekly to clean up and check things out. Seems the property has had more use this year. Still observations of people jumping from bridge - signs are up that prohibit it. Parking issues because of the bridge on Duxbury Rd. Signs are posted about prohibited uses of camping/harvesting.
 - Questions - would like to consider a management plan (camping, harvesting, river access, etc.). Is the property large enough for a detailed plan? Maybe just a list of rules? How to enforce a plan?
 - Pam has expressed interest in trails and mapping. Sharon is more focused on water side - access/uses/etc.

- UVM Projects Class
 - Professor looking for possible project for a class. Amy contacted him about possible boundary surveys, management plan, removal of invasives, etc.

- VT River Conservancy
 - Tabled until next meeting.

- Parcel of Land - Stage Road
 - Amy, Mica (chair of SelectBoard), and the SelectBoard have received copy of easement for review. That was shared with the BCC via email and also with Ethan Tapper. Ethan reviewed and had no significant concerns. Currently being considered by the SelectBoard. Next steps with Richmond Land Trust. CC reviewing for comments or feedback.

- Wheeler Field
 - No new information.

6. Other Business

- Next board meeting scheduled for: September 16, 2019

- Items for next agenda: PPCA (trails grant, VLT visit), Sara Holbrook - (trail planning, fiddlehead harvesting, UVM class project), parcel "wood lots" of land (Richmond/Jericho line), VT River Conservancy, Wheeler Field, Water Quality Projects Training, Hunter Safety Course
- Other communications: none.

8. Adjournment

Steve made the motion "to close the meeting", Jerry seconded, motion approved (3-0) at 7:50 pm.

Attest: Paula Gervia, Clerk

Minutes are unofficial until approved.

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

For the Conservation Commission