

**BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, October 7, 2019**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**TOWN HALL**

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell, Brenda Cataldo, Jean Laughman and Peter Van Dine

**1.0 Preliminaries**

**1.1 Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**1.2 Minutes Approval of September 9, 2019 Regular Meeting**

5.1 Correct Vernal Pools Day to Saturday March 21, 2020. P. Van Dine moved to accept the minutes as amended. B. Cataldo seconded. Motion passed 3:0:2. J. Laughman and R. Parlee abstained.

**2.0 Public Comment:** None

**3.0 Correspondence:**

Magazine-“Woodlands” Fall 2019. R. Parlee read excerpts from an article on old growth forests. “Reserves” is the new buzzword for leaving old growth forests intact. “Forever wild easements” typically prevent logging, building, farming, etc. Proforestation enhances biodiversity. On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Simsbury is celebrating Beldon Forest as the first forest in the old growth network.

R. Parlee showed a slide presentation on Sages Ravine an old growth forest that he explored near Bear Mountain, on the Connecticut-Massachusetts border.

Flyer advertising Breakfast in Bolton at 9:00 on Saturday, October 12th at the Bolton Commuter Lot to celebrate with a ribbon cutting, the opening of the newest section of the East Coast Greenway.

Flyer advertising the Network and Nosh at Reins Deli on October 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. for the Tolland County Inland Wetlands Commissions and Conservation Commissions Chairs.

**4.0 Financial Report**

P. Van Dine presented the financial report.

**4.1 Register for CACIWC 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference 11/21**

P. Van Dine distributed the registration forms to the committee members. A. Bicknell and R. Parlee will attend. J. Laughman is tentative.

A. Bicknell made a motion to appropriate \$195.00 (\$65.00 for each attendee) from the Professional Business and Training account for attendance at the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual CACIWC meeting. P. Van Dine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **4.2 Consider Purchasing Composters**

The BCC historically sold composters. R. Parlee found composters (Redmon Green Culture, 65-gallon capacity-26" wide x 26" long x 31" high) for \$47.18 on Amazon. The committee suggested buying 6 for resale at \$65.00 each. The total cost would be \$283.08 plus \$16.00 tax.

J. Laughman made a motion to get permission to spend up to \$300.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund for the purchase of composters. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed 4:0:1. P. Van Dine abstained.

#### **5.0 Unfinished Business**

##### **5.1 Finalize 2020 Calendar, 300 Year Anniversary Dates, Collage, Letter, etc.**

B. Cataldo contacted the printer, Jason Lemire. The cost will be \$798.00 to print, collate and bind 100 calendars. P. Van Dine suggested ordering an initial 100 calendars and to have B. Cataldo check on the price for printing 30 to 50 additional copies. The 100 hitchhiker envelopes will cost \$99.00. P. Van Dine will work on the wording for the envelope.

P. Van Dine made a motion to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund to print 2020 calendars. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Cataldo presented a preliminary copy of the calendar. R. Parlee will check with the Town Clerk about using the Town seal on the cover of the calendar and add Bolton's 300<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary logo. If the Town seal is used, J. Laughman suggested removing the BCC seal from the cover.

The meeting dates for the Inland Wetlands Commission are still needed. B. Cataldo has the major events for the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary i.e. fireworks and dates from Gwen Marrion for Land Trust events.

Friends of Bolton Lakes meetings are typically held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month except in December when there is usually not a meeting.

The Calendar letter will provide information and a quote from Josh Kelly on the 50-year anniversary of Earth Day. Gwen Marrion will offer a quote regarding current open space.

B. Cataldo will work on obtaining advertisers.

R. Parlee noted that the calendars could be sold in bulk to businesses in town-10 for \$50.00 for a resale price of \$10.00 each. P. Van Dine suggested starting with the hitchhiker envelopes for this year and pursuing other marketing suggestions next year.

## **5.2 Re-blaze Bates Trail in Herrick Park**

The current yellow trail blaze is fading and will be re-blazed in gold on Saturday, October 12 or Sunday, October 13 prior to the peak foliage hike.

## **5.3 Peak Foliage Hike on 10/19**

Saturday, October 19, 2019, is a 2 mile peak foliage hike on the Bates Trail from 10-11:30.

## **5.4 Freja/Herrick/BNSP Trail Monitor Report**

In Freja Park, A. Bicknell fixed the roof of the kiosk and planted a rhododendron near the benches. There was no monitoring of Herrick Park or BNSP. A. Bicknell and R. Parlee will install the new notebook in Freja Park this evening.

R. Parlee left a message with Dave Buckley regarding meeting at BNSP.

## **5.5 Choose Member and Alternate to Sustainable CT (Bolton) Committee**

A. Bicknell made a motion to appoint R. Parlee as a member to the Sustainable CT (Bolton) Committee with P. Van Dine as an alternate. J. Laughman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **5.6 BCC Volunteer Monitoring Initiative-V-STeM Data Collection Status**

P. Van Dine spoke regarding the monitors. The data has been comprised since last fall. Meghan Lally from the CT DEEP needs all of the equipment back in November, including gloves. There will not be any DEEP monitoring over the winter. Winter data is not as useful as summer data. The DEEP will look at the monitors for quality assurance and then will likely return them in the spring.

Peter has been using pendant loggers in Bolton Lake to monitor temperature and light. P. Van Dine feels that stream monitoring should continue. He recommends purchasing an Onset Tidbit Logger with iPhone app for \$129.00 each. The BCC will try one to see how it works. A base station is needed for \$124.00. This would also serve the Bolton Lake project. Three sites should be monitored over the winter, two in Freja Park and one in Railroad Brook. The Commission will decide in April what direction to take for the rest of the year. At least four sites should be monitored in the future.

A. Bicknell made a motion to appropriate up to \$280.00 to purchase a tidbit data logger and a base station from Onset Computer Corp from the Conservation Activity Fund. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Bicknell amended the motion to appropriate up to \$400.00 including shipping to also include the purchase of a hobo logger. P. Van Dine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **6.0 New Business**

### **6.1 Latest Open Space Map and 490 Forest Property Request**

The latest open space map is available on the Bolton Land Trust website although it is incorrect. P. Van Dine would like to be able to get it in a GPS format.

A map of 490 open space properties is pending due to the departure of the former assessor. Once the secretary is hired, a map of 490 space will be developed.

### **6.2 Initiate 18<sup>th</sup> Annual (2019-20) Photo Contest**

Discussion was tabled until November.

### **6.3 Outreach for 17<sup>th</sup> Annual RBV on 11/3**

Richard Jewell and his grandsons will be attending. The RBV will start at 10:00 a.m. B. Cataldo made a motion to appropriate up to \$50.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund to purchase pizza for the event. J. Laughman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. A. Bicknell will contribute two quarts of apple cider.

### **6.4 Results of Meeting with new Administrative Officer, Josh Kelly**

R. Parlee met with Josh Kelly. Mr. Kelly mentioned a Sustainable CT matching grant program that the BCC may be able to participate in. R. Parlee will reach out for more information. The suggestion of producing a manual to outline procedures to be followed with the Finance Department was appreciated. There was discussion about the new charter commission and the possible combination of Inland Wetlands Commission and the BCC. This is not recommended by CACIWC. The suggestion was made to have the community development officer occasionally attend meetings. Also discussed was the BCC taking on Open Space issues which they agreed to do.

### **6.5 Network & Nosh at Rein's Deli 10/21**

To be held at 6:00 p.m. for the Tolland County Inland Wetlands Commissions and Conservation Commissions

### **6.6 FBL and BLWCA Report**

The next FBL meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, 6:30 at the Camp Newhoca Lodge in Vernon. The topic is lake management.

The next BLWCA meeting will be held on November 6, 2019. The special guest is Ann Letendre of the Vernon Town Council.

## **7.0 Approval of Clerk's Invoice**

J. Laughman moved to approve the Clerk's invoice as presented. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **8.0 Adjournment**

P. Van Dine moved to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Brand

*Leslie J. Brand*

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.

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