

**BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, June 1, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING utilizing ZOOM**

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

**1.0 Preliminaries**

**1.1 Call Meeting to Order-Roll Call**

Chairman R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**1.2 Minutes Approval of May 4, 2020 Regular Meeting and May 18, 2020 Special Meeting**

B. Cataldo moved to approve the minutes from May 4, 2020 as submitted. J. Laughman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

For the May 18, 2020 Special Meeting under **3d.** Change White Pine to Frasier Fir. J. Laughman moved to accept the minutes as amended. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**2.0 Public Comment:** None

**3.0 Correspondence:** None

**4.0 Chairman's Report:**

There is no new information regarding potential development on Box Mountain.

**5.0 Financial Report:**

P. Van Dine shared the Financial Report with all Commission members via Email. The report was reviewed. The payroll account is short but a transfer can be made from the Office Supply account.

**5.1 Onset Order Payment**

The payment for the previously ordered hobo is presumed to have been made.

**5.2 CLCC Conference Refund**

A refund of \$265.00 was received from the CLCC. \$230.00 was credited to the Professional and Business Account and \$35.00 was credited to the Activity Fund.

**5.3 Stream Logger Acquisition**

A new stream logger would cost approximately \$200.00. With the purchase of one new logger, the BCC would own a total of five loggers which is almost equal to the amount CT DEEP loaned the BCC. Stream monitoring is on hold until July per DEEP regulations. J. Laughman made a motion to appropriate up to \$200.00 out of the Professional and Business Account to purchase

one hobo to be used for stream temperature monitoring. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed 4:0:1 by roll call. P. Van Dine abstained.

#### **5.4 FY 2019-20 Report**

P. Van Dine will review the budget numbers. This will be discussed at the July meeting.

### **6.0 Unfinished Business**

#### **6.1 BCC Volunteer Monitoring Initiative-V-STeM Equipment Shortage/RBV Data Collection**

All volunteer monitoring efforts are suspended temporarily per the CT DEEP. A. Bicknell suggested waiting another month or so for direction from the State before retrieving data. P. Van Dine is opposed to putting new monitors in the water but he is in favor of retrieving data from existing monitors. The tidbit at French Brook has not been activated. The tidbit works differently with iPhones and Android so a decision will have to be made as to what format to use.

P. Van Dine will select a date when he is available to collect data and put in new monitors.

#### **6.2 Library Exhibit for March-Material P/U Status**

A. Bicknell retrieved the composer. The other material is still in the display case.

#### **6.3 Photo Contest Judging Results & Prize Distribution**

R. Parlee shared the list of prize winners.

#### **Beauty of Nature and Wildlife**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	“Spring Surge”	Alan Brewer (White Oak)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>	“A Simple Thing of Beauty”	Steven Kornfeld (Rhododendron)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>	“March Madness”	Donna Miner (Honeysuckle)

#### **Beauty of Open Space**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	“Vernal Pool Serenity in Nathan Hale Greenway”	Jim Adams (White Oak)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>	“Amid the Covid, Bolton’s Glory Surrounds Us”	Kevin Glenn (Rhododendron)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>	“Sky over Lower Bolton Lake”	Richard Jewell(Honeysuckle)

#### **People in the Environment**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	“Kayakers on Notch Pond”	Barbara Amodio (White Oak)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>	“Hanami” (blossom bathing)	Kesang Iger (Rhododendron)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>	“Backyard Beauties”	Eric Bodman (Honeysuckle)

## Examples of Green Living & Farming

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	“Eat Local!”	Sylvia Ounpoo (White Oak)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>	“Wholesome, Healthy Berries, Berries, Berries”	David Ostafin(Rhododendron)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>	“Milk Run by Bike at the Local Farm”	Sylvia Ounpoo (Honeysuckle)

All winners also received two conifer saplings of Fraser Fir and/or White Pine.

B. Cataldo noted that it was difficult to choose winners this year as there were several instances of multiple photos from single entrants. B. Cataldo suggested that in the future, the BCC could determine the category that best suits the photos. R. Parlee, B. Cataldo and M. Rivers will work on drafting new rules for next year’s contest.

The winners were notified today. BCC members will meet at R. Parlee’s house at 4:00 on June 4, 2020 and prize deliveries will be made between 4:30 and 5:00.

### 7.0 New Business

#### **7.1 Trails Day – Virtual Trails Day Hikes**

Bike Walk Bolton put together a video of docents in different areas along the bike path. The video is posted on the Bike Walk Bolton Facebook page. R. Parlee has five videos highlighting Dave Boone talking about trail design. He will post the videos on the BCC Facebook page.

#### **7.2 Trail Monitoring and Work parties**

M. Rivers walked Herrick Park three weeks ago. Many logs have been cleared off of the path although the trail is almost impassable in parts due to overgrown brush.

A. Bicknell, M. Rivers and R. Parlee will work on clearing the paths next Monday or Tuesday.

Freja Park has been very busy lately. J. Laughman noted that there is Autumn Olive, Multiflora Rose and Barberry that needs to be removed. There are also many water bars that need to be cleaned out. In the future, it would be nice to have picnic tables in place. A. Bicknell will put out new brochures. The logbook is in place. Barbara mentioned installing a bike rack in front of the Jersey barrier at the right of way. P. Van Dine asked if that could be a Sustainable CT project. Prior year gypsy moth damage is noticeable on oak and hickory trees.

#### **7.3 Hop River Trail Tunnel Lighting**

This was discussed in the last Sustainable CT meeting. Barbara Amodio and Sylvia Ounpoo spoke about the need for tunnel lighting. Solar is not practical. A connection to existing utilities would have to be made. The tunnel is very dark with muddy water running in ditches along each side of the trail. The BOS has endorsed the installation of lighting.

A. Bicknell made a motion that the BCC endorse lighting in the tunnel on the Hop River Trail on the East Coast Greenway. B. Cataldo seconded. Motion passed by roll call vote. 4:1:0.

P. Van Dine is opposed due to the cost involved.

#### **7.4 Composting in Bolton**

Blue Earth Composting Company offers a curbside pickup in certain towns. Alexa Loda is an intern working with Sandra Pierog and Joshua Kelly to encourage composting in Bolton.

Reducing tonnage at the curb is the goal. R. Parlee thinks it's a ripe time to compost ☺ J. Laughman will put together some composting tips and tricks. The BCC still has composters for sale. There may be grant money available to purchase composters to give away in town.

### **7.5 SCT, FBL and BLWCA Report**

The Sustainable CT committee has been discussing the importance of well water testing. R. Parlee asked how the BCC can inform people of the importance of water testing. The Commission agreed that this is a valid concern. April 28th was the deadline to submit proposals to gain points.

Lower and Middle Bolton Lakes had an algae bloom which was most likely caused by high winds. The Lakes are being monitored. There was some landscaping work done on the edge of the lake without any erosion control put in place. Barbara Kelly was in contact with Kim Welch about the matter.

A. Bicknell noted that there have been many birds spotted at the lake. Bald eagles, an osprey, a pair of Baltimore orioles and baby hummingbirds. He has also seen a fisher cat.

The next BLWCA meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2020.

### **7.6 MS4 Discussion**

P. Van Dine noted that MS4 is concerned with making residents aware of pollutants that can impact storm water runoff. The Town is supposed share a published report and R. Parlee noted that the report is usually sent to the BCC.

The corner of Colonial Road and Juniper Lane has an issue that the Town has not addressed. The catch basin is not working properly. P. Van Dine will draft a letter concerning this issue. R. Parlee will review the letter before sending it to Joshua Kelly.

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

B. Cataldo made a motion to approve the Clerk's invoice as presented. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **9.0 Adjournment**

A. Bicknell moved to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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.

