

BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Monday, October 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting utilizing Zoom

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell, Brenda Cataldo, Jean Laughman, Peter Van Dine and Alternate Matt Rivers (joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.)

1.0 Call Meeting to Order

Chairman R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2.0 Minutes Review of September 2, 2021 Regular Meeting

B. Cataldo made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. J. Laughman seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

3.0 Public Comment: None

4.0 Financial Report

4.1 Freja Park Brochure and Calendar

The invoice for the printing of the Freja Park brochures has not been received. B. Cataldo will follow up with the printer.

A \$1,175.00 estimate was received from Hedges and Hedges for the calendar printing. A purchase order for \$1,250.00 has been approved for printing of 120 calendars.

4.2 Annual Memberships i.e. CACIWC, BLT and CLCC

The CACIWC co-membership (sustaining) with the Inland Wetlands Commission was paid using an invoice from the Inland Wetlands Commission.

R. Parlee will forward the membership postcard from the BLT to P. Van Dine.

The CLCC membership will be paid in December 2021. R. Parlee will forward the membership postcard to P. Van Dine.

4.3 CACIWC Annual Meeting on November 6, 2021

Sherill Baldwin from CTDEEP will be holding a recycling workshop. Many legal workshops will be held. A representative from NOAA will be speaking on hydrology. Virginia de Lima, the former director of USGS will be speaking on Water 101.

R. Parlee suggested that the BCC members join the Zoom meeting. The registration cost is \$30.00 per person.

A. Bicknell made a motion to appropriate \$90.00 from the Dues and Fees Account for three BCC members to attend the 2021 CACIWC meeting. J. Laughman seconded. The motion passed

unanimously 5:0:0. P. Van Dine will obtain the registration information from the CACIWC website.

R. Parlee mentioned that there are conductivity monitors up and down the Blackledge River. P. Van Dine provided a description of these monitors and he will look into the cost of obtaining them.

5.0 Continuing Business

5.1 2021-22 Calendar Planning i.e. Monthly Photos, Timeline, Ads, etc.

B. Cataldo has collected dates from several sources. She is missing the celestial events. The regatta will be held on May 22, 2022. Kids to Parks Day and Bolton Family Day are uncertain for 2022. They will be noted on the calendar as TBD.

B. Cataldo will forward a copy of the calendar with the populated dates to R. Parlee and J. Laughman for review.

After some discussion it was decided that B. Cataldo will choose the final calendar pictures.

Ads need to stay the same size as in previous years. B. Cataldo will call the previous sponsors to see if they are interested for this year. Pesce's Farm and Dean's Cabinetry were mentioned as possible new sponsors. B. Cataldo will make the final decision on sponsors.

The donation form will remain the same as 2021 unless dates need to be changed.

The price of the calendar will remain at \$10.00.

5.2 Event Dates for 2022

Monthly BCC Event "**Park Work Party**" 2nd Saturday of every month

Monthly **BLWCA meeting** 2nd Wednesday of every month

Monthly **FBL meeting** 3rd Wednesday of every month

January 15, 2022-**Winter Trails Day**

March 26, 2022-**Vernal Pools Day**

April 23, 2022-**Earth Day and Fairy House Building Contest at Freja Park**

May 9, 2022-**Photo Contest Deadline**

June 4, 2022-**Trails Day**

October 15, 2022-**Peak Foliage Hike**

October 23, 2022-**20th Annual RBV**

Bolton Inland Wetlands Commission meeting dates for 2022:

January 25, 2022

February 22, 2022

March 22, 2022

April 26, 2022

May 24, 2022

June 28, 2022

July 26, 2022

August 23, 2022

September 27, 2022

October 25, 2022

November 22, 2022

December 27, 2022

P&Z meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month

B. Cataldo made a motion to accept the above dates as proposed. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

5.3 Groundwater Resource Inventory-Laboratory Analysis Account Update

R. Parlee mentioned that studies show that sodium levels in drinking water seem to be rising. Canoe trips may be planned in the fall to collect water samples.

The BCC will want to analyze water samples from French Brook. P. Van Dine will contact Phoenix Laboratories directly to see if the Town of Bolton has an account and if not he will find out what information is needed to open an account.

5.4 Stream Temperature Monitor Recovery and Swapping

M. Rivers will check out the location of the hobo in Bolton Pond Brook. The recent rain may be a hindrance and the angle iron that anchored the hobo may have become dislodged. A metal detector may need to be used to locate the hobo. Silt may have covered it.

Monitor recovery may be tied in with the RBV. The work on the Hatch Hill dam is scheduled to begin on October 15, 2021 so the lake will be drawn down. R. Parlee and M. Rivers will try to retrieve the hobos before that date.

5.5 “The Case for Riparian Corridor Protections” by WESTCOG

The State of Connecticut is under a compliance order from EPA on phosphorus pollution

R. Parlee sent an Email regarding this to BCC members. It discusses the possibility of P&Z Commissions to perform some duties of Inland Wetland Commissions.

R. Parlee sent an Email regarding this to BCC members.

Public Act 21-29 went into effect on October 1, 2021.

J. Laughman noted that this has been going on for some time as part of the Long Island Sound cleanup.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Charter Revision

P. Van Dine noted that the narrative on the Charter referendum is posted on the Town website. He encouraged all BCC members to read the information and place their individual votes accordingly. The main issue concerning the BCC is the combination of the Planning and Zoning Commission with the Inland Wetlands Commission. M. Rivers felt that it would be appropriate for the BCC to submit their opinion on that portion of the referendum. P. Van Dine offered to collect responses from BCC members and forward the consensus to the Board of Selectmen. J. Laughman feels that it is too late for this and the BCC has already formulated an opinion on this. R. Parlee will forward the previous letter to the BCC members for review and P. Van Dine will compose a revised letter that commission members can forward to their contacts.

6.2 RBV Saturday October 30, 2021

R. Parlee asked Meghan Lally about poor testing results at French Brook. Ms. Lally felt that more stream temperature monitors should be put into place.

Participants will meet at B. Cataldo's house at 10:00 a.m.

Samples will be collected from French Brook, Baker Brook, Railroad Brook and possibly Bolton Pond Brook.

P. Van Dine is opposed to doing the RBV and monitor retrieval on the same day as he feels that there is never enough time to do the RBV properly in of itself.

J. Laughman sent information to R. Parlee on how to better identify macroinvertebrates.

6.3 French Brook

R. Parlee noted that Meghan Lally suggested doing a stream survey on French Brook. R. Parlee asked what stream samples would be tested for and how would the samples be tested? This ties back into obtaining an account with Phoenix Laboratories. Ms. Lally also suggested finding a better testing site than the French Brook RBV location.

R. Parlee showed a picture of West Ridge cul-de-sac and was questioning the drain off from the potential man made pond downstream of Tinker Pond. P. Van Dine suggested collecting samples from Tinker Pond or along the area from Tinker Pond and the bend and continue on to the Scorso property.

This information could be forwarded to the DEEP and the Salmon River Watershed Partnership to try to find the source of pollution. R. Parlee would also like to discuss this with Barbara Kelly.

6.4 BCC Peak Foliage Hike

This hike is scheduled for October 16, 2021. Participants will meet at Freja Park at 10:00 a.m. A. Bicknell and M. Rivers will lead the hike.

6.5 FBL and BLWCA Report

During the last FBL meeting, P. Van Dine noted that construction on dam improvements on Hatch Hill Road is planned to begin on October 15, 2021, to control the beavers and the level of Upper Lake. Storm water has been running into both lakes and this has been causing most of the problems in the lake.

R. Parlee noted that the BLWCA submitted comments on the Town of Vernon's Plan of Conservation and Development at a public hearing due to the fact that there was no mention of the lakes in the draft plan. The upland wetlands review area proposal around the rare Atlantic White Cedar is being reviewed by the Tolland Inland Wetlands Commission.

R. Parlee noted that the BLWCA commented on the Charter referendum. Vernon is drafting their plan of conservation and development. There was no mention of the lakes in the draft plan. The upland wetlands review area is being reviewed by the Tolland Inland Wetlands Commission.

7.0 Correspondence

R. Parlee is looking for a volunteer/s to join the Salmon River Watershed Partnership. The partnership is planning to produce a watershed management plan. M. Rivers offered to look at the material that R. Parlee has received and act as a liaison to the BCC.

Email correspondence between R. Parlee and Meghan Lally of DEEP concerning the RBV on October 30, 2021

8.0 Approval of Clerk's Invoice

P. Van Dine made a motion to accept the clerk's invoice as presented. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

9.0 Adjournment

A. Bicknell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 p.m. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2021 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.

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