

BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, December 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting utilizing Zoom

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell, Brenda Cataldo (joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.), Jean Laughman (joined the meeting at 7:11 p.m.), Peter Van Dine and Alternate Matt Rivers

**1.0 Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**2.0 Minutes Review of November 4, 2021 Regular Meeting**

A. Bicknell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. R. Parlee seconded.

After discussion, an amendment was made as follows:

Under **5.3 French Brook Stream Walk**, in the 4<sup>th</sup> line, remove the word “not” before many rocks.

The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed unanimously 5:0:0.

**3.0 Public Comment:** None

**4.0 Financial Report**

P. Van Dine emailed the Treasurers Report to BCC members and R. Parlee shared it online during the meeting.

B. Cataldo made a motion to accept the Treasurers report as submitted. J. Laughman seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

P. Van Dine requested an invoice for the calendars that have been printed. B. Cataldo will follow up with the publisher.

R. Parlee suggested earmarking additional funds to have more calendars printed. 120 calendars have been printed at a cost of \$1,098.00.

P. Van Dine made a motion to expend the additional funds (\$152.00) from the original purchase order of \$1,250.00 (#220577) to print 16 additional calendars. Seconded by M. Rivers.

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn. M. Rivers agreed as the second.

P. Van Dine made a motion that more calendars can be ordered before the next meeting if R. Parlee and B. Cataldo agree on the number of calendars to be ordered if they are needed. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

Another purchase order can be submitted if additional calendars are needed.

#### **4.1 Calendar Ads Received**

No ad money has been received.

#### **4.2 Budget Paperwork i.e., Questionnaire, Add/Drop Decisions due by 12/20/21**

P. Van Dine prepared the budget paperwork and R. Parlee shared it online during the meeting.

All categories stayed the same with the exception of an increase of \$300.00 for Professional Educational Services.

A. Bicknell made a motion to approve the proposed budget for FY 2022-2023 along with the completed questionnaire. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

#### **4.3 Annual Memberships i.e., BLT and CLCC**

P. Van Dine will process these annual memberships.

#### **4.4 Purchase Custom Safety Vests for Field Work**

B. Cataldo reported that the vests cost between \$10.00 and \$15.00. Six vests are needed. Orange is considered the best color for safety in the woods. B. Cataldo's daughter has the equipment to put the BCC name in black on the vests in letters big enough to see from 10-20 feet. The cost is \$7.00 per vest plus printing and shipping.

P. Van Dine made a motion to appropriate up to \$150.00 from the Supplies account for the purchase of safety vests. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

### **5.0 Continuing Business**

#### **5.1 2022 Calendar Sales, Distribution, etc.-Brenda**

R. Parlee sent an Email to BCC members outlining the calendar distribution details.

Calendars will be for sale at Preuss's, Town Hall, England's Hardware, Cropley's, Six & Forty-Four Package Store, Bentley Memorial Library and Highland Park Market (Manchester).

Complimentary calendars were given to Cropley's, Bolton Physical Therapy, Town Hall, England's Hardware, Preuss's, Georgina's and the Bentley Memorial Library.

R. Parlee sent a draft of a press release to Communications Director, Gary Silver to promote calendar sales. This is planned for printing in the Hartford Courant and the Journal Inquirer.

J. Laughman made a motion to approve the 21<sup>st</sup> annual photo contest for 2022. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

#### **5.2 Groundwater Resources-Laboratory Analysis Account Update**

P. Van Dine is waiting for go ahead from the town to open an account. In January, he plans to ask the new First Selectman for direction.

### **5.3 Notch Pond Canoe Trip Report**

R. Parlee shared a picture from the trip that he took with a retired CT DEEP employee. A lot of sediment was felt after sticking their paddles about two feet down in the water. A sulfur smell was detected. Sulfur dioxide may be causing the circles that were evident in the picture. P. Van Dine noted that testing for sulfur dioxide is difficult and J. Laughman agreed, adding that testing for any gas is difficult and potentially costly. More research is needed. Sediment or pieces of ice could be tested for sulfur-containing molecules. J. Laughman mentioned that the smell could also be from methane.

Gas chromatography is the testing method that would have to be used.

### **5.4 French Brook Stream Walk**

R. Parlee suggested tabling this until the weather is better and the abutting property owners have been notified.

## **6.0 New Business**

### **6.1 Results of CACIWC Annual Meeting-Alan & Jean**

A. Bicknell and J. Laughman attended the CACIWC annual meeting. A. Bicknell felt that the meeting was informative. A lot of good recycling information was presented along with information on invasive species. The groundwater talk was very basic. P. Van Dine asked about if there was discussion about lithium and cadmium recycling.

J. Laughman noted that Wetlands legal discussion was very complicated and hard to follow. The keynote speaker from NOAA spoke about monitoring and talked about using the data they collect to predict the weather. R. Parlee asked about how to predict the large rain storms that have been happening lately.

### **6.2 FBL and BLWCA Report- Peter & Rod**

P. Van Dine reported that the Hatch Hill Dam repair is underway as of last week. The jerry-rigged device to control the output from Upper Bolton Lake to Middle Bolton Lake was removed and the culverts have been cleared. The cofferdam on the Upper Lake side will be installed this week. It will be inflatable. Upper and Middle Bolton Lakes are now at the same summertime level.

The annual FBL forum is scheduled for December 15, 2021. They will be voting for members, renewing board members and reviewing the Treasurer's report. The construction company that is working on the Hatch Hill dam and the CT DEEP will be presenting their progress.

R. Parlee noted that the BLWCA will be meeting monthly. He shared the agenda for the January meeting. There was a separate stake holder meeting held on November 12, 2021. Officials from Vernon and Bolton discussed the nine elements required by the CTDEEP in the draft Watershed Management Plan with Hillary Kenyon-Garovoy.

### **6.3 BCC Winter Trails Hike on Saturday, January 15, 2022**

Location options were suggested: A. Bicknell-the Mohegan Trail, M. Rivers-Herrick Park and R. Parlee- Heritage Farm. Plans will be finalized at the January meeting.

M. Rivers will reach out to the Bolton Land Trust to ask a member to attend a future BCC meeting.

### **6.4 Salmon River Watershed Partnership**

M. Rivers agreed to represent the Town of Bolton on this partnership. R. Parlee will forward him information regarding this. P. Van Dine and R. Parlee plan to meet with the new First Selectperson in January.

### **6.5 Outreach**

B. Cataldo will be taking pet portraits with Santa at Cropley's on Sunday, December 12, 2021, from 10-2. The BCC will set up a table to sell calendars and to provide Conservation information.

Rod has two composters that can be sold. A. Bicknell suggested that Rod bring one in the box to Cropley's for display purposes.

B. Cataldo will forward to M. Rivers the information she has on participants from prior events. R. Parlee will send a contact form to BCC members to be used for event participants to fill out.

### **6.6 Correspondence**

Minutes from Joint Special Meeting with Land Use Boards on October 28<sup>th</sup>

Annual Report due by 12/20

Sections of the November BOS meeting

CT State of the Birds by CT Audubon, etc.

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

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

### **8.0 Adjournment**

A. Bicknell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. B. Cataldo seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2022 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.

