

BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting held at Town Hall and virtually utilizing Zoom

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell (present via Zoom), Brenda Cataldo (present via Zoom starting at 8:00 p.m.), Matt Rivers and Peter Van Dine

1.0 Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call

Chairman R. Parlee called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2.0 Minutes Review of April 1, 2024, Regular Meeting

A. Bicknell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0:0.

3.0 Public Comment: None

4.0 Financial Report

P. Van Dine shared the financial report at the meeting.

A. Bicknell made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0:0.

4.1 Transfer of Commission Funds to Clerk's Payroll Account

P. Van Dine made a motion to transfer \$250.00 from Other Professional Services to the Clerk's Payroll Account. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0:0.

4.2 Memberships, Brochure, T-Shirt, NCCD Order, Maps from Action Blueprint

P. Van Dine made a motion to transfer \$55.00 from Professional Education Services to General Supplies to cover \$95.00 for the printing of Freja Park brochures. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0:0.

FBL and BLT membership forms will be submitted along with payment.

The invoices for Earth Day T-shirts and the NCCD order have been paid.

The invoice for maps from Action Blueprint may have been paid.

P. Van Dine received \$30.00 cash from R. Parlee for calendar sales.

4.3 Appropriation for Tidbit or Hobo

Extra hobos are in stock. A tidbit purchase will be considered later in the year.

4.4 Earth Day Fairy House Contest Prizes

M. Rivers made a motion to appropriate \$44.58 from the Activity Fund to reimburse B. Cataldo for fairy house building prizes. P. Van Dine seconded. The motion passed 4:0:0.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Photo Contest Results, Judging and Prize Distribution Dates

Judging will take place online via a link from B. Cataldo that will be available on May 15, 2024. Judging results need to be submitted to her by May 17, 2024. Prizes will be distributed on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. or earlier as schedules permit.

5.2 Kid to Parks Day on May 18th and Trails Day on June 1st

<https://trailsday.org/events/hike-to-box-mt-old-growth-forest/>

This year's Kid to Parks Day will be held at Indian Notch State Park. Between 1:00 and 2:00, R. Parlee and P. Van Dine will be making a presentation of "Why a Watershed is like a Bathtub". They will also show some of the testing equipment i.e. the water sampler. The rain date will be Sunday at 1:00.

The Trails Day hike will be held on June 1, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. starting from the commuter lot to the east side overlook of Box Mountain.

5.3 SRWP Summer '23 Report and Correspondence of Data Collection

The review of the SRWP Summer '23 Report was tabled until the June meeting.

P. Van Dine asked if the teams from SRWP that go to the streams for testing each have an ExStik or are water samples taken back to a central location. He would like to know what data they'd like and where they would like it from. The Blackledge or French Brook close to Tinker Pond may be better location for sampling. M. Rivers will follow up with SRWP.

5.4 Swapping of Stream Temperature Monitors & Additional VP Location

A. Bicknell and P. Van Dine offered to go to French Brook with R. Parlee tentatively on Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 10:00. They would meet at Peter's house.

Ed Pawlak asked Rod about a standing water wetland and the vernal pools in Bolton. 2025's Vernal Pool Day may be held at the vernal pool behind the library. P. Van Dine suggested that R. Parlee speak with Cameron Covill.

5.5 Calibration of ExStik II Conductivity/TDS/Salinity Meter

P. Van Dine has testing solution and he needs to run through the calibration technique. The ExStik should be calibrated just before it is going to be used. He will share his knowledge with the other BCC members. R. Parlee volunteered to bring his nitrate test kit to French Brook when the swap is done.

6.0 Continuing Business

6.1 Results of Earth Day Celebration

A great time was had by all. The recycled paper notebooks for the kids were a big hit. A mini bio blitz was done. Many items were identified by the children. Marge Winters was a fantastic special guest. She has been invited to join the BCC on Trails Day.

6.2 Results of Recycling Program with All American Waste

A. Bicknell reported that the program was very well received. The presenter was very personable and explained the recycling process thoroughly. Anything less than 2 inches in length and height is not recyclable. Black plastic is also not recyclable. One of the young men that attended was very interested in recycling. The presenter from All American Waste was going to bring a recycling truck to his house to give him a ride. Another workshop may be planned for food waste or composting. R. Parlee will ask Brian Popovich for a copy of his Power point presentation. A. Bicknell suggested holding these workshops 2-3 times a year.

6.3 Mapping GIS Meta Data with NRI

R. Parlee brought the giant paper open space map. He would like to have the BCC members come to the meetings at 6:30 p.m. to help to identify locations on the map.

Meta data mapping is pending for P. Van Dine.

6.4 Outreach

M. Rivers is editing the contact spreadsheet.

6.5 FBL, BLWCA, SRWP, CACIWC Reports

FBL (Friends of Bolton Lake) –P. Van Dine noted that an open house is planned for early June at Indian Notch Park.

BLWCA (Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance) – Rod went to a CT Federation of Lakes Conference with P. Van Dine and John Williams. A rare form of hydrilla has been spotted in Middle Bolton Lake.

SRWP (Salmon River Watershed Partnership) – M. Rivers had nothing to report. He was not able to attend the April 17th meeting and the minutes have not been received.

CACIWC (Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions) – Working on securing a special guest/keynote speaker for the November 16, 2024, Annual Meeting.

7.0 Correspondence

NCLT Kayak tour of Upper Bolton Lake May 11, 2024.

Arc News Spring 2024 Edition

Hearing notice from the Connecticut Siting Council regarding a proposed solar photovoltaic electric generating facility at 250 Carter Street in Manchester

BCC reappointment letters from the Town of Bolton for B. Cataldo and R. Parlee. Their current terms expire on July 1, 2024

Drawing of planet Earth by B. Cataldo's granddaughter

Email request from R. Parlee and M. Rivers to the Town of Bolton requesting an Email address using the town domain.

2024 Photo Contest Prizes

Beauty of Nature

- 1st \$200 Cropley Gift Card
- 2nd Blueberry ‘Highbush’ (set of 3) \$45
- 3rd Earth Day T-shirt & One potted Canaan Fir

Wildlife in Bolton

- 1st Pagoda Dogwood (3-gallon) \$60
- 2nd Mountain Laurel (1 -gallon) \$22
- 3rd Earth Day T-shirt & One potted Canaan Fir

Examples Green Living & Farming

- 1st American Basswood (3-gallon) \$60
- 2nd Grape ‘Reliance’ (2-gallon) \$30
- 3rd Earth Day T-shirt & One potted Canaan Fir

People in the Environment

- 1st Blue Haw “Raisinette” (3-gallon) \$40
- 2nd Franklinian (2-gallon) \$30
- 3rd Earth Day T-shirt & One potted Canaan Fir

8.0 Adjournment

A. Bicknell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 5:0:0.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Bolton Town Hall and virtually utilizing Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Brand,

Leslie J. Brand

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

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Financial Action items

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