

BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting held virtually utilizing Zoom

Members Present: Chairman Rod Parlee, Alan Bicknell and Matt Rivers

1.0 Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call

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

2.0 Minutes Review of June 3, 2024, Regular Meeting

A. Bicknell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

3.0 Public Comment: None

4.0 Financial Report

4.1 End of Fiscal Year Report:

Tabled until the next meeting.

4.2 CLCC Membership

R. Parlee suggested joining the CLCC as the BCC works with them frequently.

M. Rivers made a motion to appropriate the \$25.00 membership fee from the Professional and Business Account to join the CLCC. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

4.3 Earth Day Fairy House Contest Prize Reimbursement

B. Cataldo has received reimbursement.

4.4 CACIWC 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting/Tabling

A. Bicknell made a motion to appropriate the \$75.00 membership fee from the Professional and Business Account to join CACIWC as a sustaining member in conjunction with the Inland Wetlands Commission. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

R. Parlee has been working on scheduling exhibitors, including other Conservation Commissions for the CACIWC Annual Meeting. CACIWC has agreed to \$35.00 admission fee for one person who is tabling at the event. BCC members agreed to table at the event.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Commercial Tractor Trailers in Bolton Commuter Lot

R. Parlee has been tracking tractor trailers parking in the Commuter Lot. They have come close to blocking emergency access to the trails. Signs stating “No Commercial Vehicles” are posted.

Sec 13b-29-3 states tractor-trailers trucks and semi-trailers are prohibited. He emailed the town and was told to contact the State Police. The Resident Trooper (860-643-6060) needed directive from the DOT to issue tickets. They have received directive and Troop K (860-465-5400) has now agreed to ticket tractor trailers that are parking in the lot and requested that Troop K be notified directly in the future.

5.2 Results of Bolton Notch Bike/Walk Connectivity Meeting

A. Bicknell attended this walk. Approximately 20 people were in attendance. The history of the efforts to connect Route 44 to Freja Park and the Rail Trail was shared. There is a meeting tomorrow at 7:00 at Town Hall to discuss the connectivity project. A. Bicknell will be attending. R. Parlee asked how the trail will be rerouted when they put lighting in the tunnel. A. Bicknell noted that was not discussed. There was no discussion during the walk about making a right hand turn only lane for cars and bikes into the Tunnel parking lot. The BCC discussed this at length.

M. Rivers made a motion that the Conservation Commission supports whatever safe solution will best work to connect the Bolton Lake area via the Route 44 (westbound) corridor to the Hop River Trail and the East Coast Greenway. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

5.3 Results of Heritage Farm Connectivity Walk

R. Parlee attended this walk and he shared a map online. The walks were run by Gwen Marrion. There are two proposals to connect the Town Hall area to Heritage Farm and the High School on Brandy Street via a walking path. The plans have to be approved by the CT DEEP NDDB.

5.4 Swapping Update of Stream Temperature Monitors

Photos were shared online. All monitors have been swapped: at the Scorso property on French Brook, Bolton Pond Brook, Baker Brook, the vernal pools in Bolton Notch State Park and the Nathan Hale Greenway and leading into Notch Pond and Railroad Brook. Most monitors will be attached with a length of chain attached to a fencepost, with an angle iron holding the PVC and the hobo. R. Parlee forwarded the downloaded data to P. Van Dine.

5.5 Election of Officers

R. Parlee made a motion to nominate P. Van Dine as Treasurer and Vice Chair of the BCC. A. Bicknell seconded. The nomination passed unanimously 3:0:0.

M. Rivers made a motion to elect P. Van Dine as Treasurer and Vice Chair of the BCC. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

A. Bicknell made a motion to nominate R. Parlee as Chair of the BCC. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed 2:0:0

M. Rivers made a motion to elect R. Parlee as Chair of the BCC. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed 2:0:0.

6.0 Continuing Business

6.1 Calibration of ExStik II Conductivity and Mapping NRI with GIS Meta Data

Tabled until the next meeting.

6.2 Outreach and New Town E-Mail

M. Rivers will follow up with Kathy McCavanagh for assistance in using the new dedicated BCC Email address.

6.3 SRWP Preserves List

M. Rivers shared the list of the SRWP Preserves online.

6.4 FBL, BLWCA, SRWP, CACIWC Reports

FBL (Friends of Bolton Lake) – A cookout is planned for September

BLWCA (Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance) – The clogged trash rack at Upper Bolton Lake is causing the lake to rise six to eight inches. The CT DEEP needs to set up a plan for keeping this clear. The BLWCA is working with the Northern Land Trust and Amy Paterson of the CLCC to preserve open space.

SRWP (Salmon River Watershed Partnership) – A meeting was held on June 19, 2024. M. Rivers was unable to attend but according to the minutes, a Salmon Cove Paddle will be held on July 26, 2024. The next meeting will be held on August 21, 2024.

CACIWC (Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions) – At the last meeting there was discussion about the House special session on climate change. Unfortunately, no action was taken in the State Senate or during the Special session.

7.0 Correspondence

Carbon Calculator tool to help estimate individual tree benefits in terms of carbon sequestration, carbon dioxide, air pollution, storm water impacts and energy savings from Bob Leverett.

<https://design.itreetools.org>

8.0 Adjournment

M. Rivers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. held only 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

M. Rivers made a motion to appropriate the \$25.00 membership fee from the Professional and Business Account to join the CLCC. A. Bicknell seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0.

A. Bicknell made a motion to appropriate the \$75.00 membership fee from the Professional and Business Account to join CACIWC as a sustaining member in conjunction with the Inland Wetlands Commission. M. Rivers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3:0:0