

NORTH STONINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
New Town Hall Conference Room
January 23, 2020 @ 6:00pm
Regular Meeting

Minutes

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Bill Ricker, Steve Colgan, Arnie Vleiks, Bob Deguorse, Doug Farrand, Mike Charnetski

Regrets: Jason Mancini

Minutes of November Meeting: Accepted as written

Treasury Report: \$285 remains (some to be used for a Hangman Hill sign estimated to be ~ \$85). Only 4 out of 110 calendars remain unsold. Bill will ask for \$10 K from the board of finance to be included in next year's budget. Unanimous agreement.

Citizen Comments: None

Old Business:

- Election of Officers (postponed from November).
 - Chair: Bill Ricker Motion made and seconded. Voted: 6-0-0
 - Vice Chair: Mike Charnetski Motion made and seconded. Voted: 6-0-0
 - Secretary: Steve Colgan Motion made and seconded. Voted: 6-0-0
- Review of new Trail Map – deferred. (Bill will get the latest version and mail to CC members. We will review the map at our next meeting)
- Summary of CACIWC conference – Bob: The workshop was well attended. In 2003, invasive species were first addressed by the State. A large turnover of DEEP staff is expected in the next several years. A 20-inch rise in sea level in CT is expected by 2050. 500 species in CT are threatened by climate change. Susan Bysiewicz (lieutenant governor of CT) who was scheduled to present was a no show.
- Update of Wintechog Hill property – Bill
 - Wright's road did have a private road sign, but is not in fact a private road.
 - We can put in a trail with markers after the solar farm map is submitted & approved.
- Update of Boombridge bridge construction vis a vis kayak trail access. No update
- Monitoring of 2 outstanding sites – Doug. Done
- Monitoring of Chester Main Trail (December 10) – Arnie. Some "public open space" signs were pulled down and "Conservation Easement" signs were put in. The trail was hard to find in places, but there were no intrusions onto the trail noted. Hiked by Vleiks, Ricker & Jon Edwards
- Review 2019 Annual Report. This was delivered to the Board of Selectmen

New Business:

- Research safety spraying of Glyphosate (Roundup). A variety of opinions and research material was expressed. These will be summarized and emailed to Mike Uργο.
- Monitoring of Firefly Farm (June and January) – Bill. Complete based on Google earth & Beth Tillman reporting.
- Review by-laws. The by-laws were handed out and will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Set goals for 2020. We discussed the 2020 goals with the decision to review the bylaws and the goals for further discussion in February.
 - So far, the goals expressed included:
 - a) Ongoing trail maintenance,
 - b) Continued monitoring of OS/CE as required,
 - c) Completion and distribution of town trail map,
 - d) Public education and outreach (Community calendar, NoStoFest, library and bank displays, Quarterly newspaper),
 - e) Wrights Rd/Wintechog town property trail development,
 - f) bylaws review (not done since 2010),
 - g) Assess viability of clearing trails in state owned Pachaug Forest that have been blocked by neglect,
 - h) Seek assistance in developing a farm & forest preservation plan.

Adjourned at 7:40pm

Steve Colgan, CC Secretary