

NORTH STONINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**October 28, 2021 @ 6:00pm
Old High School Media Center
Regular Meeting**

Minutes

Call to order: 6:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Bill Ricker, Steve Colgan, Arnie Vleiks, Bob Deguorse (seated),

Regrets: Doug Farrand, Mike Charnetski, Jason Mancini

Minutes of June, August (workshop) and September Meeting: All accepted as written

Citizen Comments: none

Old Business:

- Fire Fly Farm monitoring
 - Bill has been in contact with Mike Uργο. Our request has been sent to the town attorney – stay tuned.
- Water testing at Hewitt Farm
 - Will be discussed at Water Pollution Control Authority meeting tonight.
- Reprinted and distributed 3 trail brochures
 - All copies were taken from the Library and Town hall. These now have been replenished
- CE signs on lower Chester Main Bridle Trail
 - Deferred to November
- The Pocket Park
 - The perennials put in last fall have done well and the park is looking good.
 - Invasive jumping worms may be present. These can grow up to 10 inches long. Bill has contacted Denise Dobson (Yale) who studies these worms. She said that if we see these – take them out and leave them in the sun to die.
 - Corrugated cardboard was put over weeds at the back of the park and covered with wood chips. A bit more of this should continue next Spring.
 - A limb of a maple tree is blocking sunlight from the arborvitae on the right side towards the back. This will be trimmed after leaf fall and the poison ivy is leafless. Bob and Steve cover this.
 - Some thinning should be considered in the spring.
- Grant expenditures for kayak launch initiative
 - We spend all of the \$1,000 grant on signage, gravel and the printing of brochures.
- Development of a NoSto Bike Trail
 - A map will be generated to include road bike routes and mountain bike/equestrian use.
 - Steve has reached out to Liz Crutcher – State GIS Coordinator – Southeastern CT Council of Governments. She sent me some information today!
 - Local road bikers have suggested to include Chester Main, Boombridge road, Anthony Road, and Grindstone road.

- Points of interest include, the brewery, the winery, the bison farm, all the lakes in town, lake of isles, the center of town, graveyards, Hewett farm, Gallop house,
- There are green bars blocking fire roads into the Pauchaug Forest at several points in town including those on – Legendwood, Wyassup lake road, Coal pit road, Cossaduck Hill road and , and Fowler road. These likely could be identified as trail heads for mountain bike, equestrian, and potentially enduro trails.
- Community Calendar – 2022 sales and 2023 theme
 - We have sold about half of the calendars, several were given away.
 - These can be purchased at the library and the brewery
 - We reviewed a calendar from the Scituate Preservation Society. These cost \$6:50 each (as opposed to our that cost a little more than \$10). We decided to keep our current format and printer.
 - For 2023 – early schools of North Stonington – then and now.
 - We will keep the sale price at \$10.

New Business:

- Meeting dates for 2022
 - 4th Thursdays of each month. No meeting in August or December. November is the 3rd Thursday (so it won't be on Thanksgiving).
- Historic Hiking Trail with middle schoolers
 - Bill and Dick Seager of the Historical Society was approached by Mark Tardif (a teacher at Wheeler) to meet with his students to walk the trail and talk about points of interest.
- Ongoing review of Conservation's section of POCD
 - First 5 pages of POCD to be reviewed at our next meeting.
- Commissioners' terms of office
 - Steve, Doug, and Jason were all approved to continue on the CC by the Board of Selectmen.
- Election of officers next month – be thinking
- Looking for new members – to be put in the quarterly

Correspondences: none

Handouts: none

Adjournment: 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Steve Colgan, CC secretary