

NORTH STONINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting via ZOOM Communication
July 23, 2020 @ 6:00 pm

Minutes

Mission: For the development, conservation, supervision, and regulation of natural and historic resources, including water resources, within its territorial limits. (adopted September 2007)

Call to Order: 6:01 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Bill Ricker, Arnie Vlieks, Steve Colgan, Bob Degoursey (seated) Quorum present

Regrets: Doug Farrand, Mike Charnetski, Jason Mancini

Guests: Juliet Hodge

Citizen Comments: none

June minutes: accepted as written

Treasury report: We used all but ~\$20 from last year's budget. The sign for the Wintechog Hill Trail was approved in last year's budget. Steve purchased 1 lb of aluminum nails and Bill purchased some Roundup for the poison ivy at the pocket park. Receipts should be submitted to Juliet for reimbursement.

Old Business:

- CE signs at lower end of Chester Main Bridle Trail – Bill
 - Deferred
 - Bill offered to work with a local Boy Scout who needs service hours
- Boombridge Bridge progress – Bill
 - On down river side of bridge is a gently slope down to the river. There remains a large cement abutment remaining which needs to be addressed. There is a new Mashantucket contact (Keith Gove Kgove@mptn-nsn.gov) we need to engage to see if a sign can be put in place. Bridge is still slated for completion in November. Mike Urgo is suggesting a ribbon cutting between Westerly & North Stonington may be planned.
- Stillman Rd tree removal – Bill
 - This work is scheduled to be completed July 30th. This will open up a 4.5-mile Kayak trip.
NOTE: The tree was removed by Chris Fox July 31st.

New Business:

- Monitoring of Fire Fly Farms LLC (new plan) – Bill
 - Monitoring by Google Earth. A phone call between Bill and Dugan Tillman-Brown, co-owner of Firefly Farm, discussed the possibility of changing the Attorney General's decision from monitoring 2x a year to once every 5 years as is the practice with all other CE properties. Dugan Tillman-Brown will discuss with the 2 other principals and get back to us. Should they be supportive, we will take this to the BOS for support before writing a joint letter to the A.G.
 - Approved 4/0/0.
- Wintechog Hill Trail sign approval (see email sent 7/21/20) – Bill

- This shows the trails on town land and on Mashantucket property (which is labeled “private”)
- Lumber is needed for the trail sign (currently out of stock at local lumber yards) – Bill to purchase and Bob Fleury will construct.
- Blazing trails on Wintechog Hill property – Steve
 - The Wintechog property has a loop trail and a second leg that meets up with the CT blue trail. The blue trail heading north leads to the Town transfer station. The loop section was cleared and blazed with the help of local Boy Scouts. The second leg will be worked on next week.
- Sharing mowing at Pocket Park.
 - Bob (July); Arnie (August); Steve (September).
 - Bush replacement in the fall - Steve
 - Perennials will be planted in the fall to add additional color. Steve to coordinate.
- Calendar at printers 😊: How many? The consensus was to buy 100. Give away 10 and sell 90.
- NoStoFest – If they have it, do we want to hand out trees again?
 - Consensus was to continue to give trees to youth in town.
 - 75 Norway spruce cost us ~\$45

Correspondence/Handouts:

Boy Scout email, Wildlife Magazine

NOTE: No August meeting.

Adjournment: 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Steve Colgan, CC Secretary