

NORTH STONINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting via ZOOM
October 22, 2020 @ 6:00 pm

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Minutes

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
NORTH STONINGTON CT

B. Ricker called the regular meeting to order at 6:02pm via ZOOM.

Present: Bill Ricker, Steve Colgan, Bob Degoursey (seated), Arnie Vlieks, Doug Farrand

Regrets: Mike Charnetski, Jason Mancini

Staff: Juliet Hodge

Citizen comments: none

Approval of September minutes: accepted as written

Old Business:

- Calendar sales – Bill
 - The library needs a refill, 1 was pilfered from the town clerk's counter, some left at the brewery
 - \$200 returned to the town so far
- Pocket Park watering – Steve
 - Bill, Bob, Steve have watered – this is now turned over to mother nature – we should be good!
- Year-end report (emailed in advance) – Bill
 - Emailed to all – those who read it said it looked good 😊
- Wintechog Hill trail – Included in First Selectman's Friday summary
- Boombridge Road progress - We are still looking for a 20 foot right of way.
Kate Rotella and Jason contacted Rodney Butler.
 - This is still a work in progress
- Quarterly article (emailed in advance & sent to all homeowners)
 - Finished and distributed to the town members via US Mail
- Our 2022 calendar theme: "Farmers and Their Animals" Include 12 Farms with their favorite animal featured each month. We will include a blurb about each farm.
 - Sue Starr has retired but she referred us to the elementary school principal. An email to was sent to the principal to see if she would like to ask the current art teacher to engage kids to contribute farm-related artwork
 - Farmers will be contacted in the near future
- Monitoring via Google Earth a viable option?
 - The last fly-over done by the town was done in 2018. There appears to be a way to request a new view. Doug will send us a link to try this out.
 - Proposed wording: Properties will be monitored by Google Earth or similar technology or by an in-person inspection. For Firefly farms, a phone call to the property owner will be part of the process as well. Note: Bill to take this to Firefly farms (Dugan Brown) for his review, and it will subsequently be shown to the BOS for their approval.

New Business:

- Stewart Hill Preserve cleanup – Arnie
 - Arnie weed wacked the entrance. The trail needs additional blazing. Bill to get blue circles to Arnie
- Hangman Hill Preserve cleanup – Bob
 - Bob cleaned up the area and rehung the COVID sign the Town put up.
- Draft letter to identified landowners (sent via email including Colgan comments)
 - It was proposed to make the letter succinct and to eliminate references to our previous request. Bill will rewrite and send out to CC members for review and comments
- Budget item: Dues or membership for these organizations is acceptable but a donation in the middle of the year to an organization is not allowed. The organizations listed below we have supported previously and we intend to continue to support.
 - Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed,
 - CT Forest and Park Association,
 - CACIWC (CT Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commission)
 - \$300 was proposed collectively to donate to these organizations
- Library requested more trail maps. Bill printed 50 and delivered.
- 2021 CC meeting schedule – Bill
 - We will have 10 monthly meeting on the 4th Thursday of every month (except November when we meet on the 3rd Thursday). We will not meet in August or December.
- Election of officers next month – be thinking

Handouts: Wildlife magazine – given to Arnie, to Bob afterward.

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Steve Colgan, Secretary