

Conservation_Minutes_July .15.2021

Attending: Linda Hecker, Linda Lembke, Bevan Quinn, Marli Rabinowitz, Anne Montgomery, Steve Sosyznski, Susan Bonthron, Karen Murphy
Not Attending: Bill Jewell, Michael Becker

Meeting held outside the town office. Called to order at 5:30.

Minutes from June 17 unanimously accepted.

Action Steps update:

The Weeks Forest Carriage trail committee announced that plans to install the bridge over the culvert area on July 24. This bridge will vastly improve the well-used trail.

We are still waiting to hear from Ethan Phelps if Save Sweet Pond funds will be available to us or used by Forests, Parks, Recreation to reimburse them for recreation enhancements at the park.

Town Plan:

Working with the Planning Commission the Land Use section needs to be rewritten to make it a stronger part of the town plan. Of particular importance is integrating Act 171 into this section. The concepts of forest blocks and connectivity for wildlife are defined in the Natural Resource section and thus can be referred to in the Land Use section.

Invasives Patrol:

Karen saw a small patch of Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) near the Carriage trail.

Requests for funds from the American Recovery Act:

Ideas for projected use of the windfall monies from the federal government were discussed. As recreation and outdoor use were vital to folks during the Covid restrictions the idea was put forward to improving all the legal trails in town.

Tree Walks:

The July 11th walk on Potter Hill Road was well received with a diverse group of town residents. The large maples at the end of the town road were of particular interest. There were discussions about the difference between ash, hickory and basswood trees. The next walk will be from the top of Cemetery Hill to Bullock Road. On August 15th at 9:30. Details will be announced.

Collaborations Update: The Green River Watershed Association includes working on river access.

The next meeting is August 19 at 5:30 at the town office.

Meeting adjourned at 7.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murphy
Clerk Guilford Conservation Comission