

Conservation_Minutes_06.21.2019

Attending: Linda Hecker, Bill Jewell, Marli Rabinowitz, Susan Bonthron, Steve Soscynski, Bevan Quinn, Karen Murphy, Michael Becker
Not attending: Linda Lembke, Rory Lincoln
Guest: Jethro Eaton

Welcomed Jethro Eaton, vice chair of the Planning Commission.

Jethro addressed the Guilford Handbook and what it might include. The PC is particularly interested in maps that might be useful for area residents. The GCC has several that we can furnish.

We also discussed the parking situation in Guilford Center as there are many events hosted by the BBCC, historical society, town library (and the proposed expansion), Carriage Trail, schoolhouse, and playscape. There are no easy or immediate answers. At times parking at the school might alleviate some of the problem.

Briefly discussed the reasons why the FEH ordinance was defeated.

The PC has begun work on the new town plan due next year. They have been working on the housing piece. The GCC worked on the natural resources part for the last town plan and if we take this on again we need to be mindful of new legislation on forest fragmentation and wildlife connectivity, plan for possible population growth due to climate change, and any changes in Act 250.

Added Cow parsnip issues under new business.

The minutes from May were accepted.

Weeks Forest Update: Many thanks to Steve Soscynski for removing the tree that had fallen on the trail.

Ash tree Inventory:

Elise Shadler will be conducting a workshop at the BBCC on July 15 from 1-4. The purpose is to train volunteers in using iPads to survey the 75 miles of town roads and property. Commitment time is 10 to 20 hours per volunteer.

Feldstein property update: The property is for sale with no conservation easement. Martin Feldstein died recently. There are abutters interested in purchasing some of the 263 acres.

Linda Hecker contacted Patti Smith re the Natural Resources Inventory and has not heard back from her.

Communications:

- The Forest Connectivity Project is working on how to proceed with the project.
- Linda Hecker led a senior walk on June 18 at Sweet Pond as part of the GCC and Guilford Cares walks collaboration. The next one planned walk is Tuesday, July 16 at 10:30 from the Guilford Community Church to Partridge road.

Cow Parsnip:

No Giant Hogweed has been identified in Guilford. However, Cow parsnip is also somewhat phototoxic and care needs to be used when encountered. If area residents have concerns they are welcome to get in touch with us.

Next meeting is July 18 at 5:30 in the town office.

Meeting adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murphy
Guilford Conservation Commission clerk