

Conservation_Minutes_11.19.2020

Attending: Linda Hecker, Linda Lembke, Anne Montgomery, Bill Jewell, Steve Soszynski, Marli Rabinowitz, Bevan Quinn, Susan Bonthron, Karen Murphy

Guest: David Eastman

Not attending: Michael Becker

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM via Zoom.

Minutes from October 15 accepted unanimously.

Weeks Forest Trail:

Most of the materials needed for the bridge have been assembled. It is hoped that it can be built in the spring.

Trail Extension is on hold until the spring when we will apply for another Tiny Grant from AVCC.

Budget: We will be submitting our budget in the near future.

EAB Grant: Unfortunately our grant was not accepted. There were many applications with limited monetary resources available. If this grant is offered again next year most of work for the application has been well documented. Thoughtful work was done on tree replacement, including species of trees, where needed and costs.

Next steps for ash tree removal are the select board's purview.

Invasive Plant Mitigation:

We hope to work with the Recreation Commission with knotweed suppression at the PlayScape in the spring.

Equity and Inclusion discussion:

We had conversations on how we might reach out to townspeople whose voices are important to hear. A tentative plan is to invite folks from various backgrounds to our meetings to learn about their concerns, issues and successes.

Collaborations Update:

- We will be working with Margo Ghia (WRC) and Jens Hilke (ANR) to present a virtual Community Values Mapping exercise. The outcome of this mapping should be helpful in writing the new Town Plan. This exercise has been tested in Monkton, VT and worked well.
- Karen and Linda Lembke reported on the New England Landscape Future (NELF) tool that could also be helpful in town planning.

Forest Connectivity: Bill has been reviewing town plans in the area concerning forest connectivity. A report should be out in January.

Our next scheduled meeting is December 17th. There may be a virtual joint Conservation Commissions meeting in December which would replace our scheduled meeting. Either meeting will be warned.

Meeting adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy Clerk Guilford Conservation Commission

