

**Bristol Conservation Commission Minutes**  
**August 13, 2020 6:00 pm Zoom**  
**DRAFT**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carolyn Dash (CD), Kristen Underwood (KU), Melanie Lloyd (ML), Jono Chapin (JC).  
MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: Patricia Hunt.

- I. Call to order: meeting called to order at 6:06 by Chair
- II. Approval of Minutes from July 9, 2020
- III. Public Comment Period: Patricia Hunt attended meeting as member of the public out of interest of agenda. No specific comments.
- IV. Addition of Items to the Agenda: none
- V. Correspondence:
  - a. Stever Bartlett's request to establish a small research plot at Saunders River Access sent to KU and forwarded to the committee as well as Lydia Menendez Parker of Vermont River Conservancy and Valerie Caples. Lydia has given her approval of this project and it will be discussed by the Bristol Selectboard.
  - b. A request has been made from Ander L'Roe of the ACRPC to get input from the BCC for the revised Bristol Town plan (see item VI. e. below)
- VI. Old Business
  - a. Conservation Commission Membership: Randy Durand resigned via email 8/7/2020. ML appointed as new secretary. CD made motion, KU seconded motion. There is a general need to recruit new members to the BCC. CD will contact (someone from FPF who wrote about street trees) as well as write a solicitation for new members to be posted on Front Porch Forum. ML will contact Mount Abraham HS to recruit a local high school student.
  - b. Bristol Trail Network (BTN): VYCC finished their work on the river bend segment for the summer.
  - c. Parks Updates:
    - i. Eagle: Funding is being sought through FEMA to repair ramp that suffered damage during an October storm.
    - ii. Memorial: no updates
    - iii. Sycamore: no updates
  - d. Emerald Ash Borer response plan: Bristol has received grant funding from the Vermont Department of Forests for their response plan. A committee is being formed and might need a representative from the BCC. JC will contact Valerie to get more information.
  - e. Update to Town Plan: KU made edits to the 'Natural Resources Forest Block Section 2020\_7\_31.pdf' and will pass along to Andrew L'Roe. Commission discussed each 'Action' in the 'Implementation\_table\_ConsComm\_Actions\_8\_5\_2020.xlsx' spreadsheet.
    - i. Action 1: Apply the findings of geomorphic assessment to determination of setback requirements necessary to preserve riparian corridors and control water quality of the New Haven River and Baldwin Creek. KU would like to have a discussion with the Bristol Planning Commission to get clarification on this action.
    - ii. Action 2: Maintain and improve existing public access to the New Haven River, Baldwin Creek and Bristol Pond.
    - iii. Action 3: Develop a management plan to minimize introduction of invasive species into Bristol's natural communities.

- iv. Action 4: Encourage owners of land with Rare/Threatened/Endangered species to contact the State for assistance in developing a management plan for these sites.
    - v. Action 5: Work with adjacent towns, local not-for-profit groups (including Bristol Trail Network and The Watershed Center), and state agencies to develop biking and hiking trails that promote access to natural resource areas.
    - vi. Action 6: Evaluate opportunities to conserve lands with high natural resource value, especially those adjacent to town-owned or already conserved properties, through purchase in fee simple or funding of conservation easements.
  - f. Upper Notch Illegal dumping sites: members discussed more possible ways to discourage dumping at this site, including posting the fine for illegal dumping. This site is on private land, complicating posting a sign.
  - g. Parks and Recreation webpage: CD is working on implementing the edits made last meeting
  - h. Bird Bingo: CD is receiving emails from residents wanting bingo cards. She is directing them to the library and BCC website and Bristol rec dept. There will also be coverage by the Addison Independent.
- VII. New Business
- a. Climate Change in Bristol: was not discussed in interest of time
  - b. Bartlett Falls increased usage: discussion of Bobcat food truck, hazardous parking, and possible erosion and the history of the BCC's involvement in the area, but ultimately this seems to be more of a parks issue than a conservation issue.
- VIII. Events
- a. Next Meeting Schedule: September 10, 2020 6:00pm Zoom
- IX. Adjournment:
- a. JC move to adjourn. KU seconded.
  - b. Adjourn 7:51