

## **Bristol Conservation Commission (BCC) Minutes**

### **Agenda**

Nov 12, 2020

6:00 pm Zoom\*

In attendance: Carolyn Dash, Melanie Lloyd, Jono Chapin,  
Kristen Underwood

Members of public: Alex Mihavics, Jim Quaglino,  
Matthew Gorton, Kate Kelly, Michele Gilbert, Porter  
Knight

#### **I Call to order: 6:03 pm CD**

#### **II Public Comment Period**

Porter Knight said hello before having to run off to another meeting

#### **III Addition of Items to the Agenda**

#### **IV Review and approval of minutes from October 8**

JC made a motion to approve minutes.

#### **V Correspondence**

Emails to setup meeting with LCA and about the illegal dumping site.

#### **VI Old Business**

##### **A. Conservation Commission Membership:** any new prospects? Manley?

Ken Johnson is considering rejoining.

##### **B. Bristol Trail Network (BTN):** updates on trails?

Porter will join in December for more updates. High volunteer turnout this year to improve trails and post signage. High success with the recent art gallery along the trail this past fall with Mt Abe 7th graders.

##### **C. Parks Updates:** Eagle, Memorial, Sycamore, Saunders River Access a. Rec

Dept:

i. RE: last meeting: Sycamore driveway work, website update

ii. Brief presentation on litter in the parks (5-10 min), discussion to follow  
Alex Mihavics provided an update: Eagle and Sycamore Parks got some improvements to the parking lots. Eagle Park is done, Sycamore Park is in process. Update to the town website has been submitted and is in process with more updated information about the parks. He also presented some information about litter in the parks. Parks need improved signage to tell visitors to pack out trash. Lack of receptacles is resulting in a lot of litter. It seems the goal is to improve signage and information about how/why visitors need to take trash out with them. Also interested in providing receptacles at major parks. Concerned about unintentional litter, illegal dumping, wildlife, cost. A method seems to be working already at the rec fields- the hub skate park, tennis courts. The ideal is to potentially expand this model to other parks. Future plans- Alex will present a proposal to review for BCC review to then go along to the selectboard.

**D. Emerald Ash Borer Strategic Planning Committee:** JC has received some training, not much to report

**E. Update to Town Plan:** there will be an open meeting before being voted on at Town Meeting Day. KU mi

**F. Upper Notch Illegal dumping sites:** CD called Addison County Solid Waste District who got in touch with the Srgt. Michael Elmore at the sheriff's office who visited sites along Upper Notch. He found quite a lot of trash at multiple sites that is under his jurisdiction. He will speak with the sheriff and make a plan to increase patrol of the area. Bruce Nason also onboard, willing to help. The challenge remains how to clean what is currently there.

**G. Webpage:** nothing to report

**H. Winter Scavenger Hunt:** small updates/revisions to Jono's funding letter; will get sent to National Bank of Middlebury. Specific format will be discussed at the December meeting.

**I. Climate Change in Bristol:** nothing to report, still in exploratory phase with Sally Burrell on the Energy Committee

## **VII New Business**

**A. Bristol Pond discussion** led by Lewis Creek Association. Presentation by Kate Kelly: "6:05-6:15 contractor discusses results, 6:15-6:25 discussion of LCA's work and collaboration"

Kate Kelly introduced Lewis Creek Association

Matthew Gorton presented findings- boat launch steward program collected data from Bristol Pond boat launch through the summer. Visitors do come to Bristol Pond from as far away as Texas and Gulf of Mexico. A third of the visitors did not take any precautions in regards to aquatic invasive species. More aquatic invasives were coming out of the pond then going into the pond. This steward program is successful at stopping the spread of aquatic invasives- I believe in about 63 cases over this past summer of 2020.

Kate Kelly discussed potential grants to continue this stewardship program in future years.

Discussed the importance of controlling the presence of frogbit and potential to organize a volunteer event for removal.

## **VIII Events**

**IX Next Meeting: December 10, 2020**

**X Adjournment: move to adjourn 7:34pm**

*The Conservation Commission is currently looking for new members. If you are interested in joining the BCC please email the chair, Carolyn Dash, at [thecarolyndash@gmail.com](mailto:thecarolyndash@gmail.com).*

\*Join Zoom Meeting

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