

Bristol Conservation Commission (BCC)

Minutes

Feb 9, 2023

6:00 pm

Location: Holley Hall conference room, zoom option*

Members Present: Carolyn Dash, Chair, (CD), Kristen Underwood, Vice Chair, (VC), Zelig Smith (ZS), Helen Young (HY), Nancy Morrison (NM), Jono Chapin (JC)

Members of Public: Noelle Rose, Phoebe Barash

I Call to order: 6:00 pm at Holley Hall

The February 9, 2023 meeting was called to order at 6:03PM.

II Public Comment Period

No comments at this time

III Addition of Items to the Agenda

No new items added to the agenda

IV Review and approval of minutes from Jan 12 meeting

HY made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 12th, 2023 meeting. NM seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

V Correspondence

No new correspondence this month.

VI Old Business

A. Conservation Commission Membership-

Noelle Rose, a Bristol resident, is interested in joining the BCC and came to observe the meeting.

B. Peace Garden- discussion lead by Phoebe Barash

- a. The Peace Garden is a landscape structure on the Town Green. The structure was built in the late 1980's by Bristol Elementary students and was designed to display and promote global unity and collaboration. Since the construction the garden has been maintained by volunteers, both members of the community and students in the town. The active members of the Peace Garden Group are concerned that the organization is not attracting younger members and want to ensure the sustainability of the garden for the next generations.
- b. The BCC suggested that the Peace Garden could be added to the next Town Green Management Plan, which will be written within the next 5 years or so. The BCC discussed how to help get the word out about the group and their search for new members. The BCC offered to help make and distribute a flier along with bags and gloves for/on Green Up Day and suggested that the Peace Garden Group could even have their own table on the Town Green during Green Up Day.

C. Updating wildlife maps

- a. Status of proposed collaboration with Middlebury and the Tracking Connection

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- i. Last month the BCC passed a motion to contact Sophie Mazowita of Tracking Connections and offer to pay her up to \$225 for preliminary information gathering to get Lauren Gemery (the Middlebury College student working on the project) started.
- ii. Mazowita is available to start this project in February. However, Mazowita suggested that it would be beneficial to add section 2a from Tracking Connection's Wildlife Tracking Service Estimate.
In that document the service is described as: Field verification of mapped and modeled wildlife corridors and road crossings: Visit locations and verify land cover, note any barriers or funnels of wildlife movement. Confirm priority monitoring locations.
- iii. JC made a motion to use \$345 from the Edith Stock Trust and authorize Sophie Mazowita to go forward with service 2a from the Wildlife Tracking Service Estimate.
 1. HY seconded the motion.
 2. The motion unanimously passed and the BCC will reach out to Mazowita.

D. Parks Updates: Eagle, Memorial, Sycamore, Saunders River Access-

- a. It is time to prune the apple trees at Sycamore Park. BCC members volunteered to participate and the scheduling will be done via email.
- b. The BCC will schedule Eagle and Sycamore park work days during the March meeting.

E. Mowing: continued discussion of "No Mow May" possibilities

- a. The recreation dept suggested doing No Mow May only at Eagle Park this year as a trial. The BCC will make a decision about this in the coming months
- b. The BCC will reach out to the Energy Commission to see if they are interested in collaborating for No Mow May.
- c. The BCC will look into funding for signs and any brush hogging/ extra mowing that may need to happen after May.

F. Green Up Day: Saturday May 6, 2023

- a. Green Up updates
 - i. Bags, gloves, and prizes for the Elementary School have all been ordered.
- b. Possible Green Up Expo revival discussion
 - i. The BCC reached out to other groups but did not receive responses at this time. The BCC will go forward with our own tables at the Town Green on Green Up Day unless anyone comes forward wanting to join.

VIII Events

Green Up Day is May 6, 2023.

IX Next Meeting: March 9, 2023 (annual meeting) (planning on Holley Hall/zoom option)

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X Adjournment

NM made a motion to adjourn the meeting. HY seconded the motion. The motion passed and the February 9, 2023 BCC meeting was adjourned at 7:43PM.

A recording of the entire meeting is available at <http://bristolvt.org/fy-2022-2023-meetings/>