

**Bristol Conservation Commission**  
**January 9, 2025**

**I Call to order: 6:02 pm on zoom. Present:** Helen Young, Kristin Underwood, Zelie Smith, Alex Smith, Nancy Morrison, Noelle Rose, Jono Chapin, Aidan Lenihan (Bristol Rec.)

**II Public Comment Period - none**

**III Addition of Items to the Agenda - none**

**IV Review and approval of minutes from Dec 12, 2024;** motion to approve AS; unanimously approve

**V Correspondence** - email from Selectboard asking if we would like to follow-up on Seth Hill project (see Parks updates, below)

**VI New Business**

- **Annual report** - submitted to town offices

**VII Old Business**

- **Conservation Commission Membership:** upcoming membership changes: HY resigning in March 2025 (this will be the annual meeting of BCC) - replaced by Aidan

- **No Mow May:** Where? Do demo on a small area of town green - if this looks different than the rest of the green, put up a sign that explains No Mow May; QR code with photos of larger fields in late May and explanations of benefits. Also implement at Sycamore Park, between apple trees and back of park?

- **Parks Updates: Eagle, Memorial, Sycamore, Saunders River Access, Seth Hill, etc.:** updates.

- Sycamore Park: Glass on kiosk at will need to be replaced in spring.

- Saunders River Access: responding to questions from Vermont River Agency about access and signage: We discussed whether a sign is needed on Rt. 116 and decided, since this area is a conservancy, not a park per se, no sign is warranted.

- Seth Hill - the erosion control mechanisms created have made it difficult for Don Gayle, who sugars there, to access his sugar bush. It is unclear how/why the BCC should be involved. CD will reply to all on the email saying that we were only recently made aware of Seth Hill and the work being done there, we don't much about the property; it seems out of our purview. We'll read the email from the Selectboard, watch video where it was discussed and talk about it at the next meeting. See Dec 16, 2024 Selectboard attachments regarding Seth Hill issues on-line, esp. the file "[V.2\\_E-mails\\_ACRPC\\_FW\\_Seth\\_Hill\\_work\\_access\\_agreement\\_Gale\\_concerns\\_2024-11-22](#)"

- **Accessible Design for Town Parks:** KU outlined progress; Dan aims to send draft report on January 15. We noted a number of issues/questions about the designs and these were emailed to Dan Mallach. CD - how will these trails be maintained and who will pay for it? SB's responsibility to figure that out.

- **Wildlife corridor project:**

- Meeting with Planning & Zoning Administrator and Planning Commission; Kevin Hanson and AZ Larson - zoning and planning commission: best date for them Feb 18 - we are on the agenda for a meeting that date to talk about this project. CD will draft a summary of what was done; ask Mdd College student(s) to attend (Max), Alexis to attend (AS interested in attending), with list

of questions about what next, what will the Planning Commission do with this information, what more do they want/need, what are next steps? Will plan details at our next meeting (Feb).

- **Green Up Day**: begin planning
- **Education outreach** presentation this year? In the past, presentations at Holley Hall (tracks, birds). ZS: how to 'improve' yard for biodiversity (with Pollinator Pathways?); HY will talk to Emily May. Co-host with other organizations (TWC); ask for donations. AS: workshop for landowners, how to conserve their land. Get ideas from Salisbury and New Haven, who have sponsored many talks. Talk about at February meeting.
- **BCC stipend** restored. \$300/year
- **Bookkeeping** update on minutes - CD emailed clerk, minutes from our meetings weren't posted; called Town Administrator - we just need to get these minutes on the town website.

**VIII Events - none**

**IX Next Meeting:** The BCC meeting the second Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm in Holley Hall with a zoom option. Our next meeting is planned for Feb 13, 2025

**X Adjournment - NM moved that we adjourn, 7:30pm.**

\* Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84574267401?pwd=ZmEzQWZiQUtWRzVxaW5WOU9EbXRzZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 7426 7401

Passcode: 566093

Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)