



GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Minutes November 6, 2019 meeting

**ATTENDANCE:**

Present: Anders Nygren, Gene Newell, Paul Gallo, Iain Kinsella, Laura Saucier-Krukar, Suzanne Newell. Absent: Jason Masi

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Anders Nygren called the October meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:**

The minutes of the October 2, 2019 meeting were presented for approval. Gene Newell made a motion to accept the minutes, motion seconded by Iain Kinsella. There was no discussion, the motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Summer/Fall 2019 issue of "The Habitat" newsletter was received, and distributed to all by Anders Nygren.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Anders Nygren thanked commission members who showed up on October 26 for Town Hall front walk flower beds cleaning and mulching. Iain Kinsella brought his dump truck for leave and trimmings removal. Anders Nygren noted that 1 ½ yards of mulch that was delivered and spread was a perfect amount, to be ordered in future years.

Anders Nygren asked about the next project to plan for the East Street North trail area. Gene Newell noted that the Porcupine Trail needed to be cleaned up and marked. Anders Nygren will soon post the latest iteration of Gene Newell's map of this area in the kiosk. Gene Newell also created a map of the John Ross trail, denoting the Town of Goshen's section colored blue and the Goshen Land Trust section which continues on and colored green. Paul Gallo asked if GCC could put small kiosks with maps and "permit-required" signs on both gates. Anders Nygren did not know if that was acceptable according to the contract in place; he committed to checking and will report next meeting.

Anders Nygren mentioned the CT Trails Census program contacted him after his inquiry and it appears that this program is focused more on hard-surfaced walking or biking (multi-use) trails with substantial traffic to monitor, hence not applicable to Goshen's wooded hiking trails.



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Paul Gallo brought a 4 chambered bat house he built to the meeting to show the members; he donated materials and labor for the house, with intention of mounting it at one of the trail areas. Several location suggestions were made, with the lower John Ross trail field area, somewhere near the stream being the one settled on.

Trailhead information kiosks were fabricated by Paul Gallo. A full-size informational kiosk (copied from East St. North kiosk) has been made, was brought to the October meeting for all members to see, and will be installed at the south Town Hill trail entrance across from the gate. An additional, smaller sized kiosk with open front and cork interior for pushpins was made for the secondary, north entrance. One or two additional kiosks will be made and installed at other trailheads. A smaller size kiosk for the north end of the Town Hill trail will also be made. Three new carved wooden "Trail" signs were made and brought to the October meeting by Paul Gallo, and given to Chairman Anders Nygren for installation on the trails. Anders Nygren will install one or more at the lower section of East St. North trail to direct hikers.

Anders Nygren asked if anyone had an article submitted for the next Town Topics newsletter; no one had anything to submit for this issue.

Laura Saucier-Krukar checked with Town of Goshen roads department and no current culvert replacement is scheduled currently.

Anders Nygren brought up the potential purchase of the Beech Hill property for permanent open space by the Town or State. There are several grants available, in addition to Federal Pittman-Robertson and local Title 67 funds, to possibly enable State of CT to purchase the 620 acre property.

Anders Nygren researched "goat-scaping", using goats to rid properties of poison ivy, brush, knotweed. Farmers raise the goats to rent out, put up temporary electric fence, and let them strip an area, then move them to the next site. Apparently the goats rent out for \$600 - \$800 per week per 6 goats... Suzanne Newell mentioned that the additional revenue during the winter from "goat yoga", making goat cheese and goat soap could make for a very profitable venture!

Anders Nygren suggested that next year's calendar of meetings be discussed and decided upon. Only two meetings are not going to be held, which are January 1 and March 4, 2020.

Gene Newell brought up the annual conference of CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands commissions on November 23, 2019. He asked if anyone would like to attend; the GCC has sponsored attendance in years past. Suzanne Newell mentioned that the last day for registration "may" have been November 1; she is going to check that and confirm



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to the members. Laura Saucier-Krukar pointed out that in the copy of "The Habitat", pg. 8, there is a presentation at this conference to be given by one of her co-workers, Brian Murphy, concerning fish passage and stream connectivity on town road crossings.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gene Newell, motion seconded by Laura Saucier-Krukar. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Gallo".

Paul Gallo  
Secretary

Received Nov. 7, 2019 @ 1:43 P.M.

Attest Barbara X Buca  
Goshen Town Clerk