



## GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes August 4, 2021 meeting

This meeting was recorded via Zoom.US and is available as a recording on the Goshen website.

### ATTENDANCE:

Present: Iain Kinsella, Paul Gallo, Laura Saucier-Krukar, Jason Masi, Cindy Barrett, Jeff Damiano; absent: Suzanne Rinaldi.

### CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Iain Kinsella called the June meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

### APPROVAL of MINUTES:

The minutes of the May meeting were presented for approval. Cindy Barrett made a motion to accept the minutes. There was no discussion, the motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

The secretary reported on correspondence received: CT Wildlife magazine, March/April 2021 issue; Aquarion Water Company seeking 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Awards candidate projects from non-profit organizations.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Iain Kinsella announced that the Conservation Commission roster is now full with the addition of Cindy Barrett and Jeff Damiano, new members. The Vice Chairman position is still open however. Iain Kinsella facilitated introductions of all members for the benefit of the new members.

Pollinator Pathways: Iain Kinsella noted that the commission in partnership with the Goshen Business Circle will be planting a pollinator garden near the school tennis court area. Sue Rinaldi is the point person for the project as she's a landscaper, planting to occur probably late summer or fall 2021.

Zoom meetings to continue along with in person meetings at the town hall conference room. Iain Kinsella thanked Paul Gallo for operating the A/V equipment at town hall and hosting the meeting from there, today and in the future.

Town Topics newsletter article: Laura Saucier-Krukar is collecting future articles for the newsletter. Once the pollinator pathway garden is planted, an article will be written about it and sent to Virginia Perry for inclusion in the newsletter. Laura works at CT D.E.E.P. and had arranged for a bat-detector system to be installed at the East St. North (Hoover pond) site to record bat vocalizations, and the audio files are run through a software filter to identify the species of bats present in the area. Once the data has been received, Laura will write an article on bats, describing the use of the detector, and showing the bat house erected at the pond to encourage bats to roost there. Jeff Damiano suggested writing an article on Eurasian milfoil as an invasive aquatic plant. Paul Gallo suggested that if D.E.E.P. wanted to place the detector at another site, the field at East St. south where the next bat house will be erected would be a good candidate.

Trail maintenance update: Iain Kinsella placed a game camera on the trail at East St. North, and retrieved the video card from it. Bears, turkey, deer and coyotes' pictures were taken. He did remove a tree from across the trail while servicing the camera.



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Bantam Lake Watershed Project: Laura Saucier-Krukar reported that D.E.E.P. is soliciting comments from citizens, according to their website, dated August 2.

Beech Hill land acquisition: property has been closed on by the State of CT according to Chairman Iain Kinsella, closing date was May 18, 2021.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Iain Kinsella noted that Aquarion Water company allows hiking (by permit) on the water company trails which lead to the reservoir. Iain noted that he will find out who the water company contact is, and inquire about fishing by permit in the reservoir.

Jason Masi stated that he will send around an outline of the G.C.C.'s scope of work and accomplishments for members to review. This would make a good Town Topics article.

Iain Kinsella reported that he will make available the Thank You cards and awards for members to sign. Paul Gallo will get trail markers over to Mr. Kinsella for inclusion in the awards.

Laura Saucier-Krukar mentioned that she and her husband Jeff staff the Grange and Conservation Exhibits booth at the Goshen Fair, and they cannot be judges of entries if any of their relatives enter. Iain Kinsella volunteered to be a judge at the G&C booth if the Krukars have a conflict of interest.

Paul Gallo mentioned that he recently took a ride up Beech Hill Rd. onto the newly acquired farm that the state of CT just closed on. He stated that it was almost a mile from the end of pavement to a turn in the tire track where they go through a rock wall barway. Very impressive fields. D.E.E.P. has asked several organizations for volunteer help in marking trails through the property in the future.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gallo  
Secretary

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Received Aug 16, 2021 @ 3:05 P.M.

Attest Barbara Z. Blum  
Goshen Town Clerk