



GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes August 7, 2019 meeting

ATTENDANCE:

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL of MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting were presented for approval. Gene Newell made a motion to accept the minutes, motion seconded by Iain Kinsella. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

"The Habitat" newsletter (Winter/Spring 2019 issue) was received and copies distributed by Anders Nygren to all members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Anders Nygren advised that he took his week-whacker to the south entrance of the Torrington Water Co. trail, as well as Town Hill trail's entrances, and thanked Jason Masi who removed a tree that had fallen and needed to be cut up. Jason Masi had also intended to work with Iain Kinsella on maintenance of the Torrington Water Co. trail, but they had not been able to get together at a mutually agreeable time yet. The logged area of Town Hill trail which was seeded to grass has grown up really high, so that area was knocked down with the weed-whacker to create a narrow path to guide hikers.

Anders Nygren noted that members Gene Newell, Suzanne Newell and Paul Gallo met and paint-blazed the East St. North main trail; the upper loop trail needs to be done. Gene Newell stated that a couple trail intersections will need signage installed to direct hikers left or right; Paul Gallo asked if a map could be created with an indicator of "You Are Here" marked, showing the trail, pond, parking area, etc. Gene Newell mentioned he could create some copies of the map, get them to Iain Kinsella to laminate, and Paul Gallo could make a wooden backer to mount the maps securely on trees or fence posts on the trail.



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Suzanne Newell mentioned the idea of putting a bathhouse up on the west bank of the pond on East St. North. She and Gene Newell investigated where to get one (none free from the state DEEP); Paul Gallo mentioned that he had helped construct bathhouses for Northwest Connecticut Sportsmen's Association property and had plans for them, if needed.

Anders Nygren told the members that he'd contacted the Goshen Garden Club about helping GCC create a manicured appearance at the various trailhead locations, however they have many elderly members who are unable to do heavy work. Mr. Nygren was told that they are expecting to get some new, younger members soon and at that time might be in a better position to help GCC. He will remain in contact with the Garden Club.

Anders Nygren put a sign in the East St. North kiosk encouraging hikers to "Check 4 Ticks!". Suzanne Newell also presented copies of "tick awareness" bulletins that we might copy, laminate and post at the various trails. Laura Saucier-Krukar showed members the signs that DEEP posts about ticks. Anders Nygren asked Iain Kinsella if he could copy, laminate 6 copies of each. Iain Kinsella mentioned that he has access to some Lexan sheet remnants that we might be able to use for kiosk doors. Paul Gallo told Mr. Kinsella he would send him the kiosk door dimensions.

Gene Newell reminded the members that the west bank area of the East St. North pond has many "stubs" of brush that the town crews had cut last spring to open up the bank for the kids' fishing derby. These stubs are long enough to cause a trip-hazard, and many are cut at a sharp angle which could injure someone if they fell on it. Members will bring lopping shears to the pond after the first frost when leaves have dropped to cut the stubs flush with the ground.

Trailhead information kiosks will be made during the next several weeks by Paul Gallo. A smaller size kiosk for the north end of the Town Hill trail will be made, and a full size one will be made and installed at the south trail entrance by the gate, and on other trails.

Anders Nygren asked if anyone was preparing an article for the Town Topics newsletter. Paul Gallo said he submitted the "CT Invasive Plant Management Calendar" published by the CT Invasive Plant Working Group at UCONN (with credits), for the upcoming Town Topics newsletter.



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Anders Nygren acknowledged the weeding of the town hall flower beds lining the front walk. Suzanne and Gene Newell had volunteered to weed the beds and completed it. Mulching will be done in the fall by the committee members.

A motion to adjourn was made by Suzanne Newell, motion seconded by Iain Kinsella. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Gallo".

Paul Gallo
Secretary

Received August 12, 2019 9:49AM

Attest Megan Scanlon
ASST. Goshen Town Clerk