



GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes August 3, 2022 meeting

This meeting was recorded via Zoom.US and is available as a recording on the Goshen website. Access was by ZOOM meeting by computer at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85714857222>

Access conference call meeting by phone at 1-929-205-6099

ATTENDANCE:

Present in person in Goshen Town Hall Conference Room: Paul Gallo and Jeff Damiano

Present on ZOOM: Cindy Barrett, Iain Kinsella, Jason Masi, and Laura Saucier-Krukar.

Excused: Sue Rinaldi

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Iain Kinsella called the August 3rd meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

APPROVAL of MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 1, 2022, meeting were presented for approval. Paul Gallo made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Laura Saucier-Krukar. The motion carried. Note: There was no July meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: None received in Town Hall mailbox or via email to Chairman Iain Kinsella.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pollinator Pathways Project: Iain reported that the garden has been installed at Goshen Town Hall and thanks were given to all. He asked that members monitor this garden and the garden walkway in front of Town Hall and report if any require attention. The location was chosen with regard to septic system. The Trex bench from the Plastic Film Challenge by the Citizens Advisory Committee for Recycling and Trash (RATS) will be placed near the garden. The Plastic Film Challenge is still going on till October 1, 2022, and 2 collection bins are now located outside of the door to Town Hall. Over 700 pounds of plastic film has been successfully collected. Organic mulch will be placed on the garden. Iain noted that if help is needed, please let members know. Paul Gallo reported that he transported his water tank on his truck and applied 135 gallons on the garden and will do it again due to the extreme heat and lack of rain.

Torrington Water Company fishing by permit at reservoir: Iain noted no change from the last meeting and acquisition is suppose to happen sometime in the fall.

Trail maintenance reports: Iain reported that he will be meeting with Bill Colby to walk the trails as he is the professional engineer who has volunteered to do the project with Sustainable Goshen. Paul Gallo reported that bush hogging had been done on the south side of the Torrington Water Company trail entrance and noticed the gate was open. Possible logging maybe occurring.

Bantam Lake watershed project status: No report other than Jeff Damiano suggested contacting Mark Harris for updates.

Economic Development Commission - Town signs: Jeff noted business sign changes have been considered and the Town signs were noted to be expensive and may see consideration in the future.

East Street North trail grant discussion: Iain reported that the Conservation Commission, Sustainable Goshen, and the Goshen Recreation Department are working on this project. Goshen Recreation Director, Katie Hennessey, has resigned and the new Reaction Director is Erin Reilly. Iain will reach out to Erin Reilly and Joyce Mowrey (Sustainable Goshen contact). Goshen Recreation will be handling the Camp Coch



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trail improvement, and Conservation Commission will be handling East Street North trail improvement, and Goshen Land Trust will be handling their trails. Iain will be meeting with Bill Colby.

Camping Policy discussion: Iain reported that he did obtain the updated March Goshen Land Trust camping policy and that the Conversation Committee mirrored their policy in the past to stay in harmony with rules and policy. No permits have been applied for. Discussion was had regarding the policies. Jason Masi noted differences which included the definition of an adult, a section for camping preparedness/emergencies, our makes it a quasi agreement between the camper and the town, and we allow campfires. Iain suggested that all members, as some of the members are new, please read the policy which is on the Goshen Town Website for discussion at the September meeting.

Solar electric generating facility at 129 Bartholomew Hill Road: Iain talked with Marty Connor, (Town Planner, Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer), and that anything over 1 mw goes directly to the Siting Council and bypasses Inland Wetlands and Planning and Zoning. Discussion was had by members regarding the environmental assessment, possible threatened species there, and possible future statement of any concerns by the Conservation Commission. Iain suggested reading the application from the Siting Website or obtain it from the Town Clerk and review.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Iain shared that his article for town topics ready and has done it with pictures of presentation of plaques to former members Newel's, Anders Nygren, and former First Selectman, Bob Valentine. He will submit it to Virginia Perry by the deadline. Laura Saucier-Krukar will continue to work on her article. Paul Gallo suggested doing an article on the Pollinator Garden update and it will be worked on for the future as a new article.
2. Town Report is due and is being worked on by Iain and will be emailed for review.
3. Jason and Iain reported that they weeded the front walkway garden and did not trim the boxwood bushes as there were birds nesting. Members should keep an eye on it and report. Boxwoods will be trimmed on the fall.
4. Invasives Species Workshop was held on August 30 at Camp Coch. It was a combined effort with the Goshen Land Trust and Sustainable Goshen. There was a good turn out and very informative for all participants. Handouts were given to participants. Aquatics invasives were also covered.
5. Agenda items for September were reviewed. Please review camping policy.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Gallo, seconded by Jeff Damiano. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Barrett".

Cynthia Barrett, Secretary - **GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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Received August 9th, 2022, 11:12 AM

Attest Daniel H. Gine Assy.
Goshen Town Clerk