

GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes July 6, 2016 meeting

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Anders Nygren called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Anders Nygren, Iain Kinsella, Gene Newell, Jason Masi, Chris Marino, Paul Gallo. Guest attending meeting: Wyatt Tillman, Boy Scout.

APPROVAL of Minutes:

The minutes of the June 1, 2016 meeting were presented for approval. Iain Kinsella made a motion to accept the minutes, motion seconded by Gene Newell, the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Anders Nygren has sent a letter to Martin Connor, Town Planner, stating that the Goshen Conservation Commission recommends the adoption of the 2016 Plan of Conservation and Development draft. He provided a copy to the Secretary.

Anders Nygren confirmed that Commission members will complete the East St. North final trail section marking, rerouting the trail where necessary and nailing official trail marker signs to trees along the trail route. Trail maintenance will probably need to be done on the western part of the trail which will be slightly rerouted. Gene Newell stated that when he was last on the trail, he found a survey pin near the pond, and felt it would be fairly easy to take a northwest heading from that point to reroute the trail.

Anders Nygren proposed that he would perform some light trail maintenance on the Harlow Trail with his string trimmer soon this summer.

Anders Nygren mentioned that GCC member Gene Newell and his wife Suzanne had weeded and maintained the Town Hall front walk flower beds, a photo of which was taken by John McKenna. Iain Kinsella will contact John for the picture, and will submit to Goshen Town Topics. Mulch will be needed for the flower beds to keep weeds down; Anders Nygren will contact First Selectman Bob Valentine to order mulch. Anders Nygren to contact Goshen Garden Club for suggestions on additional plantings to fill out the flower beds.

Anders Nygren mentioned that he asked Paul Gallo if he would continue the duties of Conservation Commission Secretary, rather than asking the First Selectman to hire an employee to act as Secretary. Paul Gallo has agreed to continue the duties of Secretary; Committee members thanked him for his service.

Anders Nygren asked the Commission members to propose new (indoor) projects for the year. Possibility of acquiring written town history of the original Town of Goshen exists, and a trail-head "kiosk" with laminated trail map and historical points of interest on the trail marked with historical details.

Iain Kinsella proposed the Commission create a "kiosk" at the East St. North trail head, with large laminated trail map, for visitors to the trail to view. Iain will investigate where we could get a large trail map laminated for all-weather posting outdoors. Wyatt Tillman is finishing up his merit badge work to become an Eagle Scout, and would consider helping out as part of his Eagle Scout project, possibly on this trail project.

Paul Gallo mentioned that Gene Newell had provided some excellent suggestions on how to structure articles on invasive plant species, what to include and not, how to advise town residents to control invasives. Paul mentioned that the next draft of the first article will follow these suggestions, and he will provide copy on oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose, and/or Japanese barberry at the August 3 meeting.

Jason Masi asked if the Goshen Conservation Commission could provide information to Town Topics on ways to minimize bear-human contact, and things to do to eliminate food sources which attract bears to houses. Jason

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volunteered to author an article for Town Topics on bear interactions and avoidance, and provide the draft for review by commission members at the August 3 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Town Topics newsletter submissions:

- New projects for the Commission to pursue
- Town Hall flower bed maintenance plan
- Article submission on Invasive Plant species and human-bear interaction and coexistence.
- Fall announcement of East St. North trail opening

There was no other business to come before the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Iain Kinsella seconded by Chris Marino; meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION



Paul Gallo
Secretary

Received July 13, 2014 11:39 AM
Attest Barbara Z Brun
Goshen Town Clerk