GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes May 4, 2022 meeting

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

ATTENDANCE:
Present in person in Goshen Town Hall Conference Room: Paul Gallo
Present on ZOOM: Cindy Barrett, Iain Kinsella, Jason Masi, Sue Rinaldi, and Laura Saucier-Kruk.
Excused: Jeff Damiano

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Iain Kinsella called the May 4th meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

APPROVAL of MINUTES:
The minutes of the April 6, 2022, meeting were presented for approval. Laura Saucier-Kruk made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Sue Rinaldi. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None received in Town Hall mailbox.

OLD BUSINESS:
Pollinator Pathways Project: Sue still has plans to get to the garden going as soon as it stops raining! Other members will assist if needed.

Torrington Water Company fishing by permit at reservoir: Iain noted no change from the last meeting. He will check on updates for the next meeting.

Town Topics future articles:
1. Moose article - Paul Gallo has submitted his wonderful article on moose which he had shared with members via email. Thanks was given by Iain on a great article. Paul noted that he has begun another article on bobcats for future submission.
2. Bat article - Laura still has this in the works.
3. Appreciation plaques article - Iain is working on the article to thank former members.
4. Other future articles: Jason Masi is working on a submission.

Trail maintenance reports: Iain reported that he was unable to get back out on the Town Hill Road trail to take care of the trail marker medallions that were missing. Jeff Damiano sent an email with a trail report of a large tree hanging over the trail on the northern part of the East Street North trail. The south loop needs to be walked and checked. Cindy Barrett reported that she had walked the flat part of the north trail and removed a tree hanging over the trail. Trails will be walked to check for branches as the leaves emerge. Paul Gallo had checked the nesting boxes and no wood ducks were seen and the driveway and parking lot seems to be in good repair.

Game camera results: Iain reported that he did not put the camera out yet and suggested that perhaps we could consider purchasing more cameras to install.
Bat detector study data: Laura noted her colleague at DEEP is still getting her study report ready.
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Bantam Lake watershed project status: Iain reported that he did receive the powerpoint presentation for review and that the Steering Committee had met on March 29, 2022, at Morris Town Hall. A Task Force was created and met on April 14, 2022, and Iain had received their agenda and it was reviewed.

DEEP Property boundary marking at Beech Hill property: Iain reported no change at this time.

DEEP grant suggestions and submission: Iain asked members to relay any ideas to him. He stated he will continue to explore possible grants for the making of an (ADA)-The Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant trail on East Street North. He reported that Goshen Recreation Department is also interested in this type of trail as well as The Goshen Land Trust. Iain will report as he gathers information about details of developing this type of trail.

Goshen Greens Project: Iain reported that he received an email from Doreen Deary regarding her status that she is no longer on the Board of the Goshen Business Circle but is very interested in seeing the project evolve. She would share the draft of the project, again, if needed, and would be available to do further research to help. Iain stated that we would support it and assist as needed as it evolves.

Urban and Community forestry grants opportunities: Iain noted that we will continue to stay up to date on these and stated again the desire to focus on the ADA trail grant possibility on the East Street North Trail.

Economic Development Commission - Town signs: No report at this time as Jeff Damiano could not attend this meeting. Report to be given at the next meeting.

East Street North trail grant discussion: See DEEP grant discussion above.

NEW BUSINESS: Iain reported that The Goshen Land Trust had updated their camping policy and that the Conversation Committee copied their policy in the past to stay in harmony with rules and policy. He noted that we will update our camping policy and Jason Mason will work on this.

Iain reported that he had received an email from Paul Collins, Recycling Coordinator, about a coordinated project with Goshen Community Care for a road clean up weekend in May and was asking if the Committee could support this project. 200 lbs of plastic films have been collected for the Conservation Pollinator Pathway garden bench Plastic Films Recycling Challenge.

IN A MOTION made by Iain Kinsella, seconded by Suzanne Rinaldi, it was VOTED to sponsor the Random Acts of Clean-up Days in Goshen on May 21 and 22 in collaboration with Goshen Community Care and RATS. Voted unanimous.

Iain reviewed the agenda items bringing them up to date for the next meeting on June 1, 2022.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Gallo, seconded by Laura Saucier-Krukar. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Barrett, Secretary - GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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