

Weathersfield Conservation Commission

March 23, 2023

1879 Schoolhouse

Present: Ryan Gumbart, Cheryl Cox, Howard Beach, Heather Shand, Ellen Clattenburg

Visitors: Olivia Savage, Ray Stapleton

Commission reorganization: The officers of the Conservation Commission were nominated, nominations were seconded and all were unanimously voted in:

Chair: Ryan Gumbard

Vice Chair: Howard Beach

Recording Secretary: Ellen Clattenburg

Minutes: Our February meeting was canceled due to a snowstorm. Cheryl Cox moved that the minutes of the January 26 meeting be approved; Howard Beach seconded the motion, all voted aye. Cheryl

Waterway naming project: Jeff Pelton, prior to resigning his seat on the commission, wrote an Executive Summary to the Waterway Naming Project and produced a final copy. All agreed that his work went above and beyond – he was thorough, exacting, accurate, and responded to all comments. Ryan will email this to Brandon and get it on the Select Board agenda.

Interpretative signs for the Town Forest: Ellen will email the completed proposal to Ryan who will get this on the Selectboard agenda.

Conservation Commission outreach/education: Ryan encouraged all members to suggest walks for the public, and to come up with walks anywhere in town, not just in the Town Forest.

Board collaboration:

Parks and Rec - Ray Stapleton asked for WCC collaboration at the following Parks and Rec events

July 8 – Festival at Hoisington Field (table, activity, prizes, etc)

June 16 – fishing derby – have a table and info or activity (Ray suggested prizes here, too)

Garden Club:

- Ryan suggested that we apply for a Municipal tree planting grant - and work with the Garden Club and Parks and Rec to plant trees in public spaces
- The WCC could work with the Garden Club on teaching about planting, composting, invasives, etc.

- Pine and birch around pond need to go
- Fix stone wall along center road (maybe find a mason to help with stone wall repair)

Planning commission - Town Plan

- Ryan will send out the Land Use Agendas (Planning, Zoning, Conservation) so that we can see whether what is going on at a particular meeting is pertinent and we should then attend.
- How much do we want to be involved with the Town Plan?
 - Ryan thinks we'd be interested in having input with a Conservation PUD. And he'll give a short update on the Town Plan at our meetings. Howard wondered when we would hear about the Municipal Planning Grant (soon).
 - Planning commission chair Paul Tillson wants the C10 issue to be discussed first but Ryan suggested that working on the village is actually the priority at least from the state perspective
 - Some discussion about the aquifer overlay zone and the aquifer protection plan (required by the state). The Selectboard has to first officially adopt the aquifer protection plan.
 - Historic districts - Center, Amsden, etc – seem to be listed as zoning districts. No one was sure what this meant.

Weathersfield Historical Society: set up a joint meeting with WCC, WHS and John Moody (Ellen)

Town forest, will work to address the violations in the wet areas

Thank yous to our retiring members. For Jeff – do a little trail to the wetland that he always wanted; For Roy, ash cookie, we'll all sign our names. Ellen is to leave a thank you to Jeff in the Town Office for everyone to sign.

All should think about recruiting new members- Rika, Hank, Marina,

At 8:05, Cheryl moved and Heather seconded the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Clattenburg, recording secretary

