

## Brookfield Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2023

Present: Jon Binhammer, Starr Strong, Susan Shea, Jon Jickling. Also Marty Allen and Sarah Shaw (public)

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm
2. Review Agenda: topics added to new business below.
3. Public Comment: none
4. Approval of Minutes of the February 2023 meeting: draft minutes unanimously approved.
5. Town Forest activities:
  - a. boundary marking project, to be started when the snow is gone. Interest to participate include AJ Follensbee, County forester and Ron LaPerle and others. Request paint supplies from Country forester or Brookfield
  - b. US Forest service has funding for town forest purchases. We could explore opportunities for expansion of current forest or identify new properties.
  - c. Discussion about making request to the selectboard for some of the town's identified excess revenue funds for the Conservation and Recreation fund which has been drawn down recently.
6. Mapping of Conservation Zone and Wildlife Connectivity Overlay Zone
  - a. Review of mapped proposal for forest conservation zone delineation to be provided to the Brookfield Planning Commission. Four blocks are identified along with the wildlife connectivity corridor along the north boundary with Williamstown. Recommended zoning provisions are associated with these proposed conservation zones.
7. New business:
  - a. Review of Greenup day plans (May 6, 2020). Starr Strong to publicize it in the paper and Front Porch Forum closer to the date. Details to be discussed at the next meeting.

- b. Natural area school project should be explored again next fall when the new principal is onboard.
  - c. New project ideas: Identification amphibian crossing areas around town, survey town folks of vernal pools.
  - d. BCC annual meeting to be held on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
8. Conservation Commissioners search update: introduction of Marty and Sarah as potential BCC members. At next BCC meeting we will discuss modifying the bylaws to expand number of members of the commission. Commissions will review the bylaws for other areas needing updating.
  9. Adjourn at 8:40 pm – next meeting is April 17, 2023