

## Minutes

### Brookfield Conservation Commission Meeting

August 21, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm

Present at the Brookfield library were Jon Binhammer, Jon Jickling, Susan Shea, & Sarah Shaw

1. Review Agenda
2. Public Comment - none
3. Approval of Minutes of the June 2023 meeting – Jon B moved to approve, Sue seconded. All voted in favor to approve the minutes.
4. Statewide Flood Clean Up Day August 26, 2023
  1. Jon B shared an overview of the statewide clean-up day, which will operate similarly to May's Green Up Day. Funded in partnership with Subaru of New England.
  2. Bags will be orange and are being shipped to towns directly. None were located in the Town offices.
  3. Sarah S reviewed the State website and it directs volunteers to specific communities for support. Suggested that the CC makes a Front Porch Forum post to alert the broader community to visit the state website and join volunteer efforts as able.
  4. Jon J suggested emailing the selectboard liaison to coordinate a potential local effort for volunteer clean up within Brookfield after the August 26<sup>th</sup> event.
5. Sunset Brook Marsh Natural Area – Post Flood Conditions.
  1. Jon B shared the bridge was washed away, some of the boardwalk was affected as well. Replacing the bridge may be difficult due to erosion. Suggested dismantling the bridge and boardwalk and taking pressure treated wood to place in storage and/or create a platform extending into the marsh.
  2. Sue asked how many people were using the bridge and boardwalk to determine if it is worth replacing. Jon J suggested resetting the boardwalk to allow folks to access the stream for fishing. There may be need for volunteers to remove the material. Jon B and Jon J agreed to schedule a time to assess the current state and location of the boardwalk and bridge to determine needed steps for removal/relocation.

6. Old Town Hall Program 9/8/2023, 6pm
  1. Jon B suggested a 1 hour program including 25 min presentation/slide show to highlight Brookfield's uniqueness, provide overview of Conservation Commission's role and initiatives, including Community Values Mapping, Town Forest etc. Then open a Q&A panel with any available Conservation Commission members answering questions from attendees. Sarah S suggested the content development and marketing for the program should make it clear that this is an interactive community educational workshop and not a traditional Commission meeting.
7. Allis State Park Walk 9/17/2023
  1. Marty had suggested this as a guided nature walk in June meeting. Sue proposed a 3pm start time for this.
  2. Sarah volunteered to advertise this program on Front Porch Forum in the weeks leading up the event.
8. Town Forest Boundary Marking
  1. Jon J continuing to work on flagging, a more concerted effort will take place once the leaves begin to fall. Jon J will order more paint.
9. Update on chain link fence removal project
  1. No updates have been received from the State.
  2. Jon B asked on the status of the game camera to see if it has been put up. Jon J has not yet configured the camera.
  3. Jon B shared that the lawyer from the State Department of Fish & Wildlife would be interested in supporting drafting an agreement to facilitate the removal of the fence.
10. New business - None
11. Sue moved to adjourn, Jon J seconded, all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm – the next meeting is September 18, 2023.