

Tunbridge Conservation Commission - December 20, 2021 - library and by Zoom
Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ellen Hosford, Maureen McCoulough, Betsy Gaiser, Eliza Minnucci, Neil Fitzgerald

Members Absent: Michael Sacca

Public Present(by Zoom): Susan Salster, Betty Brown

Called to order at 6:00pm.

Review of Minutes

Discussion and Amendment to November minutes to clarify that Town Report is due by January
Approved as amended.

Review of Town Report Draft

Discussion

Rewvisions suggested

- remove sentence about Trails Committee participation
- add number of volunteers on river clean-up
- refer to Wildflowers as a Project
- clarify location of Lower First Branch river clean up
- improve graphics to clarify future events

Approved as revised

ACTION: Maureen to complete revisions as agreed upon at meeting, and submit to Anissa Morrison, communicating that we are a Commission, not a Committee.

Interim Treasurer Election

Discussion of need for interim treasurer

- \$40 in account
- money donated for Bob and Ed Bucks (Greenup Day Collaboration)

Neil Fitzgerald nominated for interim treasurer position, to serve until annual elections in March.
Nomination accepted.

Neil Fitzgerald unanimously elected to serve as interim treasurer.

Develop 2022 Calendar

Fundraising Projects

- Bird Houses
 - Covered Bridges Bird House series
 - Blue Bird Houses
 - Tentative schedule of production January to March, and selling March through May, perhaps with a table at Memorial Day Parade.

ACTION: Maureen and Neil to develop prototypes for January meeting.

ACTION: Eliza to ask Mariah about selling at the Library.

Events

- Bird Walks
- Coverts Walk
 - early May

ACTION: Betsy to coordinate with Larry Mengedoht

- Ashley Forest Walk
 - with focus on Tunbridge side access
 - discuss further in January
- Tracker Walk
 - revisit when we have funds to support
- Outdoor Movies at Fairgrounds?
 - environmental films
 - collaboration with Forest Committee

ACTION: Betsy to explore this idea

- Vernal Pools and Wetlands

ACTION: Ellen to look into leads for folks to lead wetlands event

Projects

- First Branch Clean-up
 - Belknap Covered Bridge area
 - Betsy to coordinate with White River Watershed Partnership
- Green-Up Day - May 7th
 - Eliza to continue to coordinate with support from TCC
- Invasives
 - create an informational poster with suggestions of how to treat?
 - further discussion in January
- Emerald Ash Borer
 - facilitate town discussion and decision-making
 - further discussion in January

Local, Regional, State Connections

With the intent to identify, coordinate and collaborate with partners TCC members will be in touch with and occasionally attend local and region meetings:

- School, Recreation Committee and Historical Society - Eliza
- Library and Town Forest Committee - Neil
- Regional Connections (TRORC, AVC and others) - Michael
- 4-Towns Coalition
 - Conservation and Rec / Conservation Commissions Chairs Group- Michael and Ellen
- Tunbridge Trails Committee - Betsy

Updates and Other Business

Discussion about new membership process:

- Individuals interested in serving on the TCC shall attend a meeting to observe and express interest, as well as to introduce themselves.
- The TCC shall vote at the subsequent meeting as to whether to recommend the individual to the Selectboard for appointment to the committee.
- The TCC shall be no larger than 9, we agree we would like to add to our current membership, at least to increase to 7.

Hand-feeding Bird Contest

- approved to hold this again this winter

ACTION: Eliza to promote and oversee Jan 1-February 28

Federal COViD Monies brought to our attention for consideration of possibilities

Next Meeting: Monday, January 17, 6pm at the Library and by Zoom

Adjourned: 7:45