

OFFICIAL MINUTES: Business Meeting
Eliot Conservation Commission
Eliot, Maine 03903

DATE: February 6, 2019
APPROVED: March 13, 2019

OFFICERS:

Chair: Kari Moore

Vice Chair: Kimberly Richards

Secretary: Lisa Wise

Treasurer: Lisa Wise

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM at the Eliot Town Hall. Video still does not appear to be working.

In attendance: Lisa Wise, Kari Moore, Jack Murphy (Select Board liaison); *absent: Kimberly Richards*

Review and Approve Past Minutes: 1/2/19 – A few clarification edits. Kari made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Lisa seconded. All in favor. Lisa: Submit revised minutes.

• **Action item updates from January 2 meeting:**

- Kari still connecting with Wendy re: clarifying the membership
- EAB info is on the website (thank you, Tom!)
- Lisa confirmed the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions membership went through; Jordan (town treasurer) is looking into land bank documentation
- Kari submitted letter of support for York Wild and Scenic designation to Jennifer
- Kari talked to Dana and Joel re: Jeff Tash surveying town transfer station property for New England cottontail. Get back in touch with Jeff.
- Great Hill Gravel – Lisa draft email to those who responded to water testing flyer
- Lisa and Kari coordinate looking through ECC files (including past water quality testing data)
- Check in with Kim re: her action items at next meeting

Public Input: Tom Dundzila, no comment

Financial Report: Lisa – no changes to report. Budget committee/Select Board joint meeting (1/31) – We put in our request for operating budget and \$10,000 for land bank. Jack: Select Board budget workshop is coming up.

Project Development/Permit Review: Next Planning Board agenda: 1) Indian River Campground site looking to expand the main building, questions about septic. Site walk and public hearing on 2/19. Review materials (see [1/15 Planning Board minutes](#)) and send Kari any comments. Jack: What are the long-range plans for that site? 2) Carwash on 236 being converted. 3) Expansion of natural gas facility – wetland impacts?
Kari: Connect with the new planner.

Education/Outreach Initiatives

1. *Speaker series (ECC sponsored events) – proposed topics*

- a. **Stormwater** – Mary Wicklund from Stormwater Working Group reached out – wants to brief the Conservation Commission about their work, information about the permit. Jack suggested connecting with DPW (Joel) and Dana. Kari also wants to connect with the people who applied to the Clean Water Committee (only 2 members, hasn't been able to get started) to invite to this presentation. Invite

Mary to March meeting. Mary also wants to do a yardscaping workshop – using good practices on your lawn (maybe April or May). Partner with Eliot Garden Club (Kim was going to connect with them). Kari will connect with Robert Shapiro re: hosting this event at Green Acres.

b. Vernal pools – Workshop for volunteers in April. Stay tuned.

c. Emerald ash borer workshop(s) – Melissa Brandt from York County Soil and Water Conservation District reached out to us – upcoming workshop in Springvale. Lisa get those events on website and Facebook. Melissa also wants to do a workshop here – maybe May? Kari find out when would work.

2. Cleanups – proposed dates

a. Roadside – partner with recycling committee (Jim Tessier is the chair) – Kari will connect with Jim. Around Earth Day. Joel might have a suggestion for potential locations. Discuss at next meeting.

Town Conservation Areas, Mapping and Hiking Trails, Great Works Regional Land Trust (GWRLT)

1. Forest Management Plan

- a. ECC did a hike with GWRLT recently at the York Pond area and some of the town forest area over there. GWRLT is putting in a parking area and kiosk – they want to include Eliot town forest area. They will share draft content with us for review. Lots of potential for trail maintenance (wetland crossings, trail marking/mapping), recreation enhancement, community engagement (bench idea?).
- b. Lisa reached out to Maine Forest Service district forester for York County, Oliver Markewicz – out of office until 2/11. Lisa will invite to our April meeting to help us identify next steps.

Ongoing Conservation Efforts

1. Vernal Pool Project

- a. State mapped the potential vernal pool areas for the 5-town areas. There will be a presentation on 2/26 (Justin from Maine Natural Areas Program). Also trying to set up the volunteer workshop in April. Kari will put together volunteer recruitment materials.

Conservation Commission Goals and Objectives – Schedule a strategic planning session.

Roundtable

1. Commission members

- a. Lisa: Attended second Spinney Creek aquaculture hearing in January. Focused on land ownership/legal questions. No updates since then.

2. Non-commission members

- a. Tom: Deb Humiston does some trail mapping work in NH. Tom send contact info.

Next meeting: Reschedule for March 13, 6:30pm. Kari check with Kim, Mary/Stormwater Group, Dana, and Joel.

Kari made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lisa seconded. All in favor. Adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Graichen

Secretary, ECC

Cc: Eliot Town Clerk, Commission Members, Commission File