

Kennebunkport Conservation Commission Meeting Report

May 9, 2022

Kennebunkport Fire Station/North Street/Zoom

Commission Members attending: Steve Hanna, Robin Phillips, Karen Hall, Carol Morris, Jen Comeau

Public Comment – none

1. It was unanimously voted to accept minutes from April 11 Meeting.
2. Survey Results Overview - Carol presented an overview (link to survey results [here](#)). The majority of people responding had “lots” or “some” concerns about the amount of pesticides used in Kennebunkport. There was little difference between residents and non-residents views; however, people who indicated they have all work done by yard professionals are significantly less concerned about pesticide use. A similar percentage of people (around 30%) want a total ban by the town as want nothing done by the town (around 30%). Around 43% want to see a “some action” that would lead to a reduction in use. Education is viewed positively.
3. Discussion of Survey Implications / Next Steps – Members discussed the results; there was a general consensus regarding not wanting to move too fast, and allowing time for education; however, there was strong interest in asking applicators to report amount sprayed/applied in town, and a discussion as to whether this should be voluntary or in an ordinance, whether such an ordinance could be completed in time for the late June deadline for the November election, and would it be worth it to create an ordinance just for that. Carol will check with Falmouth as to how their reporting was created and administered. The conversation was generally pro-education, pro-waiting until June 2023 for larger ordinance. There is also interest in consideration of an ordinance that includes shoreland zone or denser neighborhoods only.
4. Survey Communications – The committee agreed on the suggestions below and suggested making some kind of written information available at the town office and Graves Library.
 1. *Currently online – post input as well.*
 2. *Facebook with link to report*
 3. *Press release with link to report*
5. Education and Outreach Updates - 20 minutes
 - Brochures (Skillins/Lawns for Lobsters): After discussion, it was decided that the Skillins brochure is more comprehensive and it would be better to adapt that than to update lawns for lobsters brochure.
 - Educational links provided to Steve: This was proposed at the last meeting and has not occurred. Members should send links to articles or websites to Steve to

vet. Carol will manage getting these onto town website. Existing articles need to be vetted as well.

- Update on website/town website access – A new town position held by Yanina Nickless increases the KCC ability to have more materials posted and the page somewhat revamped. Carol will work with Yanina and the rest of the commission to make this happen.

6. Invasives Demo Project – There was discussion regarding the timing of the permit and the desire to get started with this project at the beach access path. Carol will check on timing, Steve will pick date (discussion about making this a late afternoon event), Carol and Robin will do a call for volunteers, Carol will create signs. Also discussion of disseminating info on native plants; Steve advised creating a shorter list than we currently have on hand.
7. Updates from past month other than Major Initiatives – Carol noted that the awareness brochure for the Kennebunk River Restoration Committee has been approved done and will go to print this week. She will send to members. A joint KCT/Kport Rec/KRCC awareness event is planned at the Grist Mill in July to create a native plant buffer with the kids doing the planting. Robin and Carol meeting with Isaac Schchat of KCT at the Mill this week to finalize location and discuss plants.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.