

Kennebunkport Conservation Commission Meeting Report

Hybrid Meeting: Kennebunkport Fire Station, North Street, Kennebunkport, and on Zoom.

June 13, 2022

Number of people attending in person: 0; number of people attending on zoom: 6;

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

The meeting began at 6:10 pm due to minor logistical issues.

1. It was unanimously voted to accept minutes from May 9 Meeting.
2. Invasives Demonstration at Goose Rocks Beach – Steve, Carol, and Robin reported that the Saturday June 11 project was a success, with seven volunteers and a town dump truck and Steve's large trailer filled with invasives (mostly bittersweet and bush honeysuckle) removed. A large number of lilacs are thriving where the invasive plants were removed. Semi-permanent signs were placed.
3. Kennebunk River Restoration – Project is ticking along with brochure and letter mailed to 500 river abutters in three towns, two events scheduled for Chamber Launch week, and collaboration with KCT on Rec Camp planting of Kennebunk River verge at the KCT Grist Mill for July in planning stages.
4. Healthy Ecosystems Ordinance – Committee went over draft ordinance in detail. Discussion centered on how to report locations, whether to match reporting requirements to state requirements, whether any kind of fertilizer within 250 feet of water bodies should be permitted, whether and which violations should trigger fines, and what the enforcement process should be – or even if enforcement is important. Commentary from public included general support for direction of ordinance/Commission due to invasion of substances beyond areas of application, suggestion that police could be used for enforcement purposes (which are expected to be minimal), lack of support for ordinance on basis on government overreach and

invasion of personal privacy, and lack of support for ordinance based on it being unnecessary and onerous for applicators. Commission action steps are:

- Steve will revise draft based on specific suggestions made at the meeting
- Jen will (with Steve) create recommendation for how to sort/report locations using existing maps available in Comprehensive Plan.
- Carol will get advice from the Town on how enforcement might be handled simply and efficiently.
- Carol will try to determine technical details of how State registry works from the applicator perspective.
- Carol will confirm that Town can accommodate another Commission Meeting on June 20. The draft is due to BOS by June 24.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.