

## **Kennebunkport Conservation Commission Meeting Report**

### **In-person Meeting, Kennebunkport Police Station**

**August 8, 2022**

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

*The meeting began at 6 pm.*

1. The commission voted unanimously to accept minutes from June 13 and June 20 meetings.
2. Status and Next Steps: Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance
  1. BOS Meeting: Carol, Steve, and Robin will attend Thursday's Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting to discuss the timeline of the next version of the Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance. The commission agreed to ask for a BOS rep to be part of our meetings/discussions on this new ordinance.
  2. Ordinance development: Steve made a proposal regarding creating a full-fledged ordinance with all "desired components" that would include two or three "alternative approaches" for each, representing various approaches from no action to detailed regulation. The commission agreed with this approach, and Steve will create categories based on the six major categories of pesticides (including herbicides), breaking it up so we can review one category per meeting.
3. Education and Outreach Discussion
  1. Using a timeline created for 2021, the commission discussed various activities that can be undertaken to educate the community on using alternatives to pesticides/herbicides.
    - Carol will create a brief paragraph that better describes us – we are not the KCT – to use as part of all outreach materials.
    - It was agreed that a drive to encourage people to sign up with the state to be notified of nearby pesticide applications should begin in September.

Robin is willing to be at a booth at the Kennebunk Farmers Market for Labor Day, Columbus Day, and possibly Apple Tasting to hand out materials. Carol is also willing to help out at the market. Jen will create a draft handout for these events (possibly using a Did You Know? Type approach) that can be easily printed on a home computer for Labor Day weekend. Once the handout is created, additional publicity will be generated.

- Discussion of a Speakers Bureau included the possibility of partnering with BAC and KCT on speakers. Steve indicated that he thought someone from the Board of Pesticides might be more available now. It was agreed that it should be hybrid. (Question: Can this be done on a commission member's zoom account as opposed to the town's?)
- There was discussion of whether a logo to differentiate us from the KCT would be desirable. No action at this time.
- Carol will create a draft of a brochure similar in format to the Kennebunk River brochure that outlines the Commission's mission and all the areas in which we are active. We will use a "Did you know" and "What you can do to help" kind of format. Methods to take action and keep in touch (including a QR code) will be included. Goal is for a draft of this document to be available for discussion at regular September meeting.
- It was suggested that all members sign up for David James' Residents Newsletter.
- Based on this discussion, Jen will revise the outreach timeline
- POST MEETING NOTE: Carol noted that we will also be adding material to the town's KCC webpage and that we are able to group materials in categories. All members can make suggestions on what to post; Carol will be working with Yanina Nickless on updating the page with these materials. Steve had noted that he would prefer to include peer reviewed articles, but they are hard to find. Carol also indicated that she would like

to create an Instagram account, as photos are an effective format for what we are trying to get across. Karen has indicated that she is willing to provide photos.

#### 4. Updates on Other Issues and Projects

1. Goose Rocks Beach Invasives Demonstration Project: Steve has been cutting back the bittersweet and honeysuckle on a bi-weekly basis; Robin and Steve spent several hours last weekend digging out roots. It was suggested that we have another volunteer session in the fall when it is cooler to continue this process. Many positive comments have been made by passers-by; two signs on site indicate that this is a KCC project.
2. Town Forest – Steve asked what the status was of this, as the town had indicated that work was being done to catalog these parcels.

The meeting ended at 7:15 pm.