

## **Kennebunkport Conservation Commission Meeting**

**January 20, 2022**

### **Meeting Report**

*6:00-7:30 p.m. via zoom*

Members present: Carol Morris, Jennifer Comeau, Steve Hanna, Karen Hall, Robin Phillips.

Five guests from the community were present

*Carol Morris opened meeting at 6:00 pm*

1. Updates from past month other than major initiatives:  
Jen noted that they are continuing to work on new list to communicate via email with the community.
2. Reports/Planning for major initiatives:
  - Demonstration projects for invasive species
  - Town owned land assessment
  - Climate change

Steve is planning to clean out some specific areas which are town owned:

1. North Street right of way
2. Dyke Road access point at Goose Rocks Beach

Carol suggested leaving a portion untouched to highlight the difference and Jen thought a before and after photo would be a good strategy.

Climate change: Eli Rubin is working with other towns to form a group climate initiative.

Pesticide Subcommittee Report and Timeline:

- Jen presented her timeline which will show ongoing progress.
- Jen asked that people email KCC to be included in the news group.
- Planning to do public outreach/education at the Farmers Market.
- February outreach to commercial pesticide applicators.
- Press release in March

- Town survey and speaker forum regarding opinions about pesticides.
- Discussed GPC survey in which a number of participants expressed concerns about pesticide use in town.
- Speaker forum discussion should represent different perspectives.
- Discussed a plan to have a second draft by June 27, 2022 for November warrant, leaving flexibility for timeline as it may need to be extended.
- Jen proposed sending information on pesticides town wide with the June tax bill.
- Steve will work on clarifying information.
- Steve and Robin are looking into background literature in the first draft.
- Steve looking into federal and state regulations.
- Discussed setting up expert forums from state and other agencies to cast a broad net for speakers.
- Steve explained his qualifications and used his drift studies as an example.
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- Jen spoke about Steve's suggestion that people who comment should present facts and data to support their opinions during public comment.

#### 4. Public comment:

- Speaker 1 wanted to express his appreciation for facts and science and requested that we include an expert from the state. He stated that he was dubious of surveys and would like to make sure surveys are kept in context.
- Speaker 2 asked when the speakers would present and if public comment would be allowed.
- Speaker 3 inquired about any discussion on pre-emergents and mosquito control. Steve replied that the December report was premature and that both topics will be considered. Carol suggested that the Board of Pesticides can be called and that they will look into proper enforcement of application regulations.
- Speaker 1 expressed his concern that people are not following proper application protocols.
- Speaker 4 is the owner of a local organic farm and appreciates the fact that the KCC are working on a pesticide ordinance.
- Speaker 5 wants to focus on enforcing existing pesticide laws. Meeting adjourned.