

Kennebunkport Conservation Commission Meeting
February 14, 2022
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Meeting Report

Attending: Robin Phillips, Karen Hall, Steve Hanna, Carol Morris

1. Vote to accept minutes from January 10 Meeting
 - Carol asked to postpone this vote since there was actually two meetings – one on the 20th that was cut short, and a makeup meeting on the 20th. It was agreed that these two sets of notes should be combined.
2. Updates from past month other than Major Initiatives
 - Robin indicated that there had not been much of note in recent Planning Board Meetings, but she had heard that there was a requirement of a newly built home on the march at Wildwood to not use pesticides. Robin will follow up with the Planning Board.
3. Reports/Planning for Major Initiatives
 - Demonstration Project: Invasives
 - Carol asked what was needed to get this project started, wondering if the committee could meet to do a site(s) visit, get lot lines and abutters names, decide how many people are needed, and write up a description of the project. Discussion on these ensued – Carol will send an email this week regarding a site visit and talk with the towns re mapping and abutters.
 - Climate Change
 - Robin presented the CC's support statement for the Community Resilience Project at the recent BOS meeting.
 - Pesticide/Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance
 - Robin recounted what was learned from today's call with the Falmouth Conservation Commission chair and the town's Sustainability Coordinator. They have been working on this issue for 6 years, do not have an ordinance, but do require applicators to report amount, type, and location of application to the town. Their presentation is very informative and there was committee support to in some way adapt some of the statistics and approach for our town.
 - Forums were discussed, with Steve having secured the Board of Pesticides (Megan Patterson) for early April (they would like an overview of what we want to focus on), and Robin working on MOGFA, which also has a good program on organic lawn care. Carol suggested that Eledredge Hardware might be another good speaker. Robin also has a contact at Webhannet Golf Club, which would be an informative point of view. There was also discussion about needing a repository for

the committee to keep articles and weblinks as opposed to sending them via email. Carol will look into Dropbox as an option.

- There was discussion of the survey. The majority of the committee reiterated their desire to mail the survey as opposed to just having it online and making paper copies available around town. Carol explained that our current funding is not sufficient, and the commission asked her to talk with the town about potential additional funding. Karen, Steve and Robin all expressed willingness to help with the work of physically mailing and inputting paper surveys because they believe that will deliver a more accurate understanding of people's attitudes. Carol will also send out another survey link for commission members to assess.
 - Kennebunk River Restoration Committee
 - Steve and Carol attended a steering committee zoom session this week. It is a large and supportive group, and Carol noted that some of the tasks in the work plan (for example, the Arundel golf club will be holding a workshop around the benefits of native barrier planting along the river) are directly in the KCC's wheelhouse.
4. Public Comment
- Three members of the public made comments on this and the last meeting, primarily in regards to the importance of making the survey accessible to non-voters. One of the commenters wanted it to be made clear that the KCC is not a neutral party in terms of pesticides. Carol noted that the committee as a whole certainly has a bias toward supporting healthy ecosystems; another committee member pointed out that there are different viewpoints on the committee and not everyone is opposed to all pesticides.
5. Other business
- There was none.
6. Adjourned at 7:30 pm.