

WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES– MAY 17, 2023 6:00 PM – WESTFORD TOWN OFFICE

Members present: Joel Fay, Sarah Pinto, Chris Cunningham, Elias Rosenblatt

Members of the public present: Vicky Ross

6:00 pm

- Review and Approval of April meeting minutes
 - SEP motioned, JF seconded, unanimous approval.
- Changes to Agenda
 - ER - Update on collaboration with Bee the Change

6:05 pm

- Public Comment – See Passport program for public comment from Vicky Ross

6:10 pm

- ARPA Shed?
 - Construction proceeds after school breaks for summer.
 - Permitting has proceeded.
 - Building will be a team lift.
- Schultz kiosk + bridge recovery
 - Bridge removal proposed for June 11th.
 - CC to reach out to adjacent landowners on Machia Hill side
 - SEP to email Nanette about getting on Selectboard agenda for kiosk and June 11th as a bridge recovery date.

6:45 – Trail Updates – clean-up day?

- Scheduled for June 17th, 9:30am.
 - Will ask volunteers to meet at WES parking lot, bring loppers, shovels, etc.

Weed-whacking needed on:

- pine tree tunnel – needs eye poker removal and possibly wood chips.
- Schultz - needs whacking on Machia hill side
- Goodrich – needs a full pass through

-Aftermath of MSTF logging

- SEP to email Ethan about overlook trail rerouting given wet spots on trail.

-Passport program (Updates from Vicky Ross, Library Board)

- Switching to black metal waterproof boxes with blaze instead of plastic
- Secure with chain and will rest on the ground.
- May add a few geocache sites for school trail boxes.

Follow-up question about service for geocaching from Rec Committee

- Same bag prize, may add additional bag design for folks who have won in the past
- Will not do town common building for stamps this year
- Goal is to have boxes installed by July 4th

6:55 – Other business

- Newsletter Items
 - Reminders about ticks
 - Trail clean up date (June 17th, 9:30am)
 - Trails open as of memorial day
 - Passport program coming
 - Reminder about WRVD restoration program
- Bee the Change updates
 - Pollinator gardens are starting to be prepped with tilling
 - School is in support, with plans for class involvement
- Schedule June meeting for normal timing (June 21, 6PM), with topics including:
 - Nordic ski/winter walker conduct and trail plan

Meeting Adjourned 7:03 PM

Motioned by ER, seconded by CC, all approved.