

Chichester Conservation Commission
Minutes of ZOOM Remote Meeting of December 7th, 2020

Call to Order at 6:30pm

Attendance: Bob Mann, Zack Boyajian, Frank Harrison, Marianne DiTaranto, Blaze Konefal Dawn Marshall, Gordon Jones — Non Voting Alternates: Gail Britton-Kojigian and Charlie Kojigian — Guests: John Mandrioli and Annie Kelly

Minutes from the Nov. 2nd meeting were unanimously approved with one edit.

Valley View Conservation Area

Bob introduced John Mandrioli and Annie Kelly, (the new owners of former Frangione homestead) and invited John to speak to the Commission members. John explained that he and Annie were not inclined to allow an easement across their property that would provide a continuation of a proposed footpath on Dan Humphrey's abutting property. John made reference to his plans to create a working farm at the homestead and protecting the privacy of his tenant as reasons that he would not consider granting an easement.

John expressed a desire to cooperate with the Commission but requested, as a courtesy that the Commission give him a week's notice if they wanted to access his property. Bob agreed to do so on behalf of the Commission and assured John that the Commission would endeavor to maintain good relations with all the neighbors as we move forward with plans for a footpath connecting the Chichester School to the Town Library across the abutting Humphrey property.

John and Annie exited the meeting.

Spaulding Town Forest

The contract for the construction of the parking lot at Spaulding Town Forest will be awarded to Luke Steven's company contingent on securing funding. After a lively debate about whether to fund this project with funds from the Forest Management Fund or from the Conservation Fund, Bob made a motion to pursue the Conservation Fund option (necessitating a hearing and subsequent CCC vote) for the construction of the parking lot at Spaulding Town Forest. Dawn seconded the motion. Four members; Bob, Dawn, Blaze and Marianne voted yes; the remaining three members Zack, Frank and Gordon voted no. The motion passed.

Easement Stewardship Reports

Blaze reported that all reports have been completed and submitted.

Natural Resource Inventory

Zack reported that the NRI maps should be ready by next week. Zack suggested that a copy of the maps be given to the Planning Board.

Shaw Pasture/MSCA

A bench donated by Udo and Linda Rauter has been placed near Marsh Pond on the MSCA property further along the path where the farm implements are located. The Rauters wanted to provide a place for visitors to MSCA to have a place to rest and enjoy a view of the pond.

Frank agreed to check the status of the unauthorized tree stand on MSCA. If it has not been claimed since he posted a notice on it over a month ago, he will remove it.

A number of large oak trees along the new trail near Marsh Pond have been girdled by beavers. At Bob's request

Zack will review the forest management plan for that area and lead a discussion at the next meeting, to help us decide what to do about the damaged oak trees. As a temporary measure, Charlie and Gail will use wire fencing (donated by Bob and Frank) to protect some of the larger oaks from girdling until we decide what to do about the situation.

Milfoil on Dear Meadow Pond

Zack reported that Chuck Scheys' (of Dear Meadow Pond Road) had a recent conversation with DES regarding milfoil on Dear Meadow Pond. Chuck told Zack that DES has committed to pay for the mitigation efforts to control the milfoil in 2021 but that in subsequent years, DES would be looking to Epsom and Chichester to share the cost of mitigation efforts with a 50/50 match of DES funding.

Carpenter Park

Zack mentioned a concern that some work being done at the Town Highway Department area may impinge on a nearby wetland area. The Conservation Commission may need to address this situation with Road Agent, Craig Sykes, if it appears that the wetland is being affected by the work.

Next Zoom Meeting will be on January 4th, 2021

Zoom meeting expertly hosted by Frank Harrison

Minutes taken by Gail Britton-Kojigian

Edited by Bob Mann

Approved 