

Town of Bedford Conservation Commission Minutes January 26, 2021

A meeting of the Bedford Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 via the Zoom meeting platform.

Present: Maggie Wachs, (Chair), Stephanie Jones, Dave Chiappetta, Bob MacPherson, William Carter, Stephen Clough, Rebecca Hebert, (Planning Director) and Karin Elmer, (Planner I).

Absent: Gregory Schain, Beth Evarts, Patricia Grogan, Denise Ricciardi, (Town Council Alternate).

7:00 PM Call to Order

Ms. Wachs called the Bedford Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Members of the Commission introduced themselves via roll call and all indicated they were alone in the room during this online meeting.

Ms. Wachs welcomed everyone to the Bedford Conservation Commission meeting and appointed David Chiappetta to be a voting member tonight.

Minutes:

MOTION by Ms. Jones to approve the minutes of December 22, 2020 as presented. Second by Mr. Clough. Roll call vote:

Ms. Jones Yes.

Mr. Carter: Yes.

Mr. Chiappetta: Yes.

Ms. Wachs: Yes.

Mr. MacPherson: Abstained

Mr. Clough: Yes

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.

MOTION by Mr. Carter to approve the non-public minutes of December 22, 2020 as presented. Second by Ms. Jones. Roll call vote:

Ms. Jones Yes.

Mr. Carter: Yes.

Mr. Chiappetta: Yes.

Ms. Wachs: Yes.

Mr. MacPherson: Abstained.

Mr. Clough: Yes.

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.

**MOTION by Mr. Carter to unseal the non-public minutes of December 22, 2020. Second by Ms. Jones.
Roll call vote:**

Ms. Jones Yes.

Mr. Carter: Yes.

Mr. Chiappetta: Yes.

Ms. Wachs: Yes.

Mr. MacPherson: Abstained.

Mr. Clough: Yes.

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.

New Business:

Raffael Raduazo Eagle Scout Presentation:

Mr. Raduazo stated that he recently completed constructing of two signs for the Conservation Areas in Bedford. One for the Sebbins Pond Conservation Area and one for the Ash Bog Conservation Area. He and his family carved each sign and then it took multiple days to install the signs due to the concrete having to set on all the support posts before the signs could be mounted.

The Commission thanked him for all his hard work and commented they truly appreciate now having signs on Conservation Lands that previously did not have any visibility.

William Girard's Eagle Scout presentation:

Mr. Girard was not available this evening to present his recently completed bridge building project at the Pulpit Rock Conservation Area. Mr. Moore, Chair of the Pulpit Rock subcommittee said he worked with William and he did a great job and wanted to give a big thank you to William for all his work. The Commission also thanked Mr. Girard for his work and commented they truly appreciate his time and effort.

Mr. Hamilton's 8th grade class letters:

Mr. Carter told the Commission about the letter he received as a Town Councilor from an 8th grader named Violet and her concern about pollution and the importance of recycling. The Commission also received other letters from Jessamine and Zoe regarding air pollution and endangered species. Mr. Carter told the Commission about the efforts of the Town of Bedford relative to recycling. Statistics

show since 2018, the town has increased the amount of products being recycled by 5 tons. Hopefully we will continue this trend with even more people participating in the future.

Mr. MacPherson agrees that we need to pay special attention to the endangered species in our town and do everything to help protect them.

Ms. Wachs thanked all the students for their letters and hopes someday they may be future members of the Conservation Commission.

Other Business:

Ms. Elmer updated the Commission on the status of applications that went to the Board of Adjustment for variances relative to wetlands. Both variance applications that were reviewed by the Commission last month were approved by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. They thanked the Commission for their review and took their comments into consideration when making their decision.

The Commission also discussed topics for next month's workshop. Ms. Jones stated she attended a workshop about turtles and would be interested in learning more about what habitats and species are endemic to this area.

Mr. MacPherson is interested in Wildlife Corridors and ways to protect deer and other animals.

Mr. Clough stated he would be willing to do a brief overview of the US Fish & Wildlife wetland mapper tool.

Mr. Macpherson would also like to continue the topic of acquiring more land for conservation.

MOTION by Mr. Carter to adjourn. Second by Ms. Wachs. Roll call vote:

Ms. Wachs: Yes.

Mr. MacPherson: Yes.

Ms. Jones: Yes.

Mr. Chiappetta: Yes.

Mr. Carter: Yes.

Mr. Clough: Yes.

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Karin Elmer, Planner 1*