

These minutes are draft until approved

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___ Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, August 1, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the July 4 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: Jack presented hard copies of the report, because his internet is still out from the microburst on July 22. No internet! It's like the 19th Century or something. From the 2022 budget allotment of \$3,805.00, \$898.12 remains. The ECC Fund balance is \$13,675.23. The Invasive Plant Fund balance is \$16,698.90. Members discussed the Current Use Change Tax and how it is shared with ECC according to town policies. Jack has been unable to find any records of Current Use Change Tax income to the town over the past 5 years. BOS Secretary Audrey said that she will investigate further.

Water Issues:

- The Planning Board was scheduled to hold a session on Aug. 2 for the purpose of continuing its open hearing regarding the Meena LLC site plan for the former Boyle's Market property to Aug. 22.
- Chair contacted Cliff Cabral of New England Milfoil to schedule this year's survey. Cliff responded that ECC is "on the schedule and he'll let [us] know" regarding a specific date.

Land Issues:

- Chair reported that Andrew Lester had contacted her for a reference for a job with Audubon on Martha's Vineyard. Kamal suggested getting a firm response as to whether this new position would prevent Andrew from completing the trail project in the PRCP.

Education and Outreach:

- Emelyn presented a flyer and signage for the Aug. 20 presentation on Birds of Prey, scheduled in conjunction with the Street Fair. Diane will post copies at the Transfer Station, Town Hall, Post Office, and Library. Chair will produce the directional signs to post on the day around the Street Fair site. Volunteers are needed from 1:00 p.m. to help set up.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Chair sent an email to Dan Coons asking for a progress report on the recommendations he was preparing regarding FEMA floodplain mapping and developing a wetland protection strategy. No reply had arrived as of the Aug. 1 meeting.
- Harry reported that many trees had come down in the LLP, and that it was not safe for the public to enter. He taped off the area and reported on the type of equipment he believes will be required for the hazardous job of removing the leaners. Chair will contact the BOS to schedule a professional cleanup.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 6, in the modular behind the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m., because Monday is Labor Day and not all members are available.

Members present: Emelyn Albert (*Chair*); Diane Jarecki; Steve Jarecki; Harry Libby; Kamal Nath; Tim White (*Recording Secretary*); Jack Williams (*Vice Chair/Treasurer*) Absent: Virginia Wrabel(*alt.*); Bill Wrabel (*alt.*)

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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