



Conservation Commission

**November 2, 2020
Virtual Meeting Minutes**

Attendance

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Present</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Present</i> |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| Nancy Lightbody <i>Chair</i> | ✓ | Susan Gilpin | ✓ |
| Rich Bicknell | ✓ | Jerry Goodall | ✓ |
| Sarah Boudreau | ✓ | Karen Jacobsen | ✓ |
| Jeanie Campbell | ✓ | Ashley Krulik <i>Staff</i> | ✓ |
| | | Tommy Johnson <i>Council Liaison</i> | |

Nancy began the meeting at 7:03 p.m. via Zoom. Ashley introduced herself and gave a brief background of her experience.

1. **Establish Quorum**

It was observed that a quorum was established.

2. **Administrative Details**

Email Nancy webinars and other community activities members have attended.

3. **Review of Draft Minutes**

Minutes of June 1, 2020, were approved unanimously as written.

Answer to June question about pesticides on school athletic fields during pandemic - have been reduced some but not entirely.

4. **Public Comment**

Public comment was opened and closed.

5. **Discussion of 2020-2021 Town Council Work Plan for the FCC**

- Environment effects of small engines is complete - delete from work plan
- Pesticide Ordinance still priority
- Living Lawns goes along with pesticides
- Watershed - out of Commission control
- Invasives – ongoing
- New items to potentially focus on:

1. Look at bigger picture - climate change, drought
2. Role the Commission can play in housing developments related to the environment - sediment in waterways, loss of trees
3. Microplastics
4. Pesticide ban in Falmouth
5. Presumpscot River protective corridor to restrict development and use – Jerry and Susan to explore idea.

6. Pesticide and Fertilizer Restriction Ordinance: Updates

- Use applicator data to show that there is an issue with the number of pesticides applied in Falmouth
- Rich and Nancy volunteered to help with data entry and compilation.
- Need to make sure that the final output has meaning to the public.
- Volunteering to work on Living Lawns campaign – Sarah and Jerry, Jeannie – still garden tours?
 1. Ask residents who don't use pesticides to act as examples to show others how to garden without chemicals (post-pandemic garden tours) – Oceanview
 2. Message about Living Lawns in Falmouth Focus and at retailers

7. Tree City USA: Heritage Trees (Rich)

- Discussed other municipal tree ordinances - will do more research

8. Subcommittee Reports

- **LMAC** (Karen): committee is walking lands to see what needs upkeep, signage, trail maintenance, starting with Pine Grove; trail management will be a focus
- **Planning Board** (Nancy): discussed private way access - stormwater management, sewer disposal, vehicular access; many subdivision requests; Route 1 bank/office building proposal; stream restoration project near Hadlock Road
- **Water Quality/Erosion** (Susan): Climate Council report coming out soon
- **Wetlands/Vernal Pools** (Nancy): No report
- **Invasive Species** (Sarah/Jerry/Nancy): No spraying this year due to budget cuts; look into impact fee/maintenance plan for invasives in new developments; Jerry/Sarah/Nancy/Ashley to meet to discuss current state of invasives
- **Highland Lake Leadership Team** (Nancy): Working on a water management plan to reduce the amount of phosphorus that goes into the lake.

9. Other Business/Other Ideas

- Strategic Water Plan/Watershed Protection Project: (Robyn Saunders at our next meeting)
- Other?
 1. Combine Conservation Commission and REAC?

2. Each member should bring 3 big ideas to next meeting

10. Adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.