

JOHNSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2022

Present: Lois Frey, Sue Lovering, Peter Hammond, Dean Locke, Noel Dodge, Jackie Stanton
Absent: Jared Jasinski, Denise Ashman, Carrie Watson
Note: Jackie and Dean left at 7:55, leaving no quorum.

The May minutes were approved.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT ON McCUIN ISLAND

Noah Pollack plans to meet with a group of volunteers on Friday, June 17, from 9:30 -1:00 to clear an area on the island for tenting and add steps. We can and should join them. They plan to cut knotweed and pull out bush honeysuckle with a winch. Our concerns are rife: where and how will they stack knotweed, can the volunteers recognize the rare and fragile plants, how will winching out roots affect the rare plant(s) next to them?

Park behind the Nazarene Church and paddle to the island or paddle from the mouth of the Waterman Brook.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Officer selection: no one thinks there's a better person for chair than Lois and no one wants to try. No one is crazy enough to want to be secretary except Sue, so Lois and Sue will continue with their jobs. It is important that responsibilities are spread throughout the group for sustainability going forward.

We need a vice chair, who would lead meetings if the chair were to be absent. Lois suggests that the office should also take the leadership of a project; for example, the vice chair could be the point person for the mission request.

Peter will think about taking it on. We'll discuss it again.

GOMO KIOSK AND BAT HOUSES

Dean has ordered 3 PT 4x4s for the bat houses and kiosk and will order one more along with hardware. He'll measure the bridge at Journey's End and order the materials necessary to repair the railing, using PT lumber.

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

We have \$2,000 in our budget for communication. Might we use it for creation of videos for community education? We could get people to start thinking about the land as a natural environment, rather than something to be used. It'll be a great day in *that* morning!!

MISSION STATEMENT: NEXT STEPS

Questions to be answered:

- In the event that we need to weigh in on a project, would the best way to structure our response be by way of a quorum, a subcommittee, or discuss in emails as a group?
- How long should it take for us to give an answer?
- We should have a meeting or meetings with chairs of boards, whole boards and individuals. Inviting specific people and explaining what we're doing and why would make the process more fluid.

MISC

- Lois pointed out that we all need to attend every selectboard meeting when ARPA funds are discussed.
- The Fairy Forest sign at Journey's End is broken and down. Dean will refurbish and rehang it.

Adjourned at 8:35.

Next meeting is on Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 6:30 at the Arboretum.

Submitted by Sue Lovering, Secretary.

DRAFT