

Town of Bremen
Conservation Commission Draft Minutes
Video Conference Call
January 6, 2021 Part 1
January 13, 2021 Part 2

BCC Members Present: Ann Nesslage, chair; Mary Berger; Susan Davis; Walter Radloff
BCC Associate Members Present:
Selectman Liaison Present:
Visitors: Joan Ray

Part 1

Ann opened the Meeting at 5:05 pm,
It was decided that because of the events in Washington DC today that this would be an abbreviated meeting Part 1 and we would meet again next week Jan 13 for Part 2

Ann asked Joan if the insurance issue the BOS was concerned about was taken care of. She will forward the information to the BOS. Relationship of BCC to Bristol was discussed. Mary encouraged Bremen BCC to talk with other CC.

Select board meeting

Budget will be tight. Budget due Feb 13. The bicentennial celebration will most likely take place. Will keep budget the same.

Listing of properties. The updated list was circulated prior to the meeting. Susan asks for input. Joan Ray will send her comments.

Weston Spring property LCN article. Mary Berger regretted that the LCN mentioned BCC in connection with the spring. She said she made it clear to the reporter that she was expressing her opinion and not representing any group. She has gotten good feedback from the article.

Town Forest Property. Steve Lauric should be given credit for designing the trails. All agreed.

BCC Meeting Part 2

Jan 13, 2021

BCC Members Present: Ann Nesslage, chair; Mary Berger; Susan Davis; Walter Radloff
BCC Associate Members Present:
Selectman Liaison Present: Wendy Pieh
Visitors: Anna Barber, Kelsy Kalbacher, Ruth Ferry, Mathew Hanley

Meeting opened 5:04

BOS. No concern mentioned about the trail listing

Developing more interest in Bremen trails by Ann

Mary Berger and Susan Davis suggest publicizing Coastal Rivers educational programs led by knowledgeable naturalists that are available at no cost to the public. Wendy was asked if the

BCC could send out this information using the town list serve. Wendy mentioned that staff were coping with extra demands of COVID. Susan and Mary offered to write the copy. Wendy will get let us know. Ruth Ferry mentioned that past programs may be available. Another idea is to publicize the trail list once it is finalized and on the town website.

Access to town property was discussed. Wendy stated that BOS feel that all town property should be accessible. Susan would like to meet with BOS for clarification of some property boundaries as well as discuss policy for use of properties. Areas of discussion would be signage, parking restrictions, boundary markers and abutter considerations. She suggests doing this as a resident and not a BCC member. Ann N will ask that Susan be on the BOS meeting next week. Susan will send her list and properties and issues that she will address.

Discussion of Weston Spring

Mary has had much positive feedback in support of the spring. It is a unique small parcel on Biscay Pond in its natural state that helps support the health of the lake. Mathew Hanley states that he has fond memories of the spring and hopes the town will conserve it.

Ideas for usage and access were discussed. BCC is in favor of working on the property to conserve and offer access to it in a safe and effective way. The following outline condenses the suggestions and tasks to accomplish this. However, this is preliminary and a more complete plan will most likely be developed

1. History: including documentation of gift. Include irregularities concerning the property.

Paving driveway, plumbing issues etc. Mary Berger is in possession of this material

2. Survey: A recent survey is available. Mary Berger

3. Spring water quality testing results. Recently done by BOS, Boe Marsh

4. Needs:

a) Expert opinion about feasibility of restoring the health of the spring

Design for housing spring, safety issues

Grants that will help with the project. Jack Doak has some information

b) Lake water quality test to determine if lake in front of spring is compromised

c) Review of septic systems of abutters

d) Determination of how best to access/use property.

Bench and memorial plaque

Lake only: signage

Fogler Rd: issues of parking, neighbors, signage

e) cooperation of neighbors. Perhaps send them the article

f) assessment of tree management on property

g) leader(s) for project.

Perhaps neighbors will take interest like those near Clam Island did. Serious buy in when changes effecting them were brought up

Ann Barber would like to join BCC and will talk to Ann about that. Kelsey Kalbacher would like to be involved She has a background in environmental sciences.

Wendy Pieh complimented the group on their interest and momentum

Meeting adjourned 6:15 pm.