

Town of Bremen
Conservation Commission Minutes
Video Conference Call
January 12, 2022

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

The meeting was opened at 5:02 pm

Minutes

December minutes were approved as edited.

BOS report

No issues relevant to BCC at this meeting

Weston Spring.

Mary Berger will follow up on any progress about the dismantling of the spring housing.
Ann Nesslage will ask BOS as well

Mapping of Properties in town with Public Access

Mary Sue Weeks agreed to assist with this project. Joan Ray informed BCC that Coastal Rivers Land Trust (CRLT) will contribute up to \$1,000 for the project. Ben Meader of Rhum Line Mapping is recommended. CRLT has experience with his work. The map will be designed to accurately show each property. The map will be in pamphlet form as well as posted on the town website. Mary Sue Weeks, a Bremen artist will embellish the map with appropriate town icons such as boats, flora and fauna. Joan Ray suggests looking at the Damariscotta trails map as a resource and will help with the Bremen map. BCC members will review the Damariscotta. map and participate in a zoom meeting with Ben Meader as soon as can be arranged.

Arnold Banner suggests Maine Office of GIS (ME.GIS) for accurate maps.

Susan Davis is looking for input from Jim Murphy for accurate boundaries of certain Bremen owned properties. This is necessary to protect abutters from trespass on their land.

Wording of Article 44

Current wording is land conservation, purchase of property and easements. It was felt that the wording is inclusive and it isn't necessary to make it more specific.

Signage of Bremen Properties

Currently not all Bremen properties are signed. BCC feels that it would be helpful to residents to be aware of what is owned by the town but that it is a policy decision for the BOS. BCC will suggest to the BOS that they look into making this a policy. BCC can offer suggestions to keep the signage consistent with what that is now in use. Historically signs have disappeared in Bremen and one solution if this became a problem would be to use game cameras.

Other

It was suggested that Storer Road landing would benefit from a bench for use by the public. This area is quite popular especially during the summer with Bremen residents.

Berger Preserve walk.

BCC could sponsor a walk on the Berger Preserve on Bremen Long Island. Joan Ray could lead it. Details including boating to the island would need to be worked out.

Connecting trails to existing properties such as library to Storer Road and Hilton O'Conner Trail to the Heath Road bridge were discussed. Preliminary look into the possibility revealed that it would be complicated. The town doesn't own the needed land.

Budget

The budget is due in February. Ann will check with CRLT about the monies needed to complete the planned work on the Hilton O'Connor trail. Cost of supplies has increased dramatically so it is anticipated more money will be needed,. In addition, the Bremen Conservation Land Use Reserve Fund has not been adjusted in years and it will be brought to BOS attention.

Maine Association of Conservation Commissions Application

Susan Davis will follow up on the status of the application

Identification of parcels beneficial/important to Bremen

BCC agrees that this should be a cornerstone of conserving land in Bremen. CRCT is planning meetings with towns in the area to get resident feedback on what are the most important areas to be preserved. BCC is looking forward to the results found in Bremen.

Solar Farms

Resource materials have been shared with BCC. Mary Berger will check with the planning board about their plans on this. There is also a consultant available to the planning board.

Broad Cove- Medomak River pollution

Several towns are working together to solve the problem. Pollution is the major contributor of clam flat closures in this area. Clamming is an important source of jobs for residents of surrounding towns including Bremen. The general source of pollution has been identified. BCC will stay informed of the progress.

Meeting adjourned 6:45 pm

Respectfully submitted

Susan Davis