

Town of Bremen
Conservation Commission Minutes
Bremen Library
May 3, 2023

BCC Members Present: Ann Nesslage, chair, Susan Davis, Kerry Kohnert, Walter Radloff

BCC Associate Members Present:

Selectman Liaison Present: Wendy Pieh

Visitors Present: Brad Weigel, Naomi Martin

Meeting opened: 5:01 pm

Minutes approved

BOS report

Stan Waltz taking over CEO duties until new CEO begins.

Weston Spring Plaque ordered today. Bronze in keeping with the historic spring and gift to town

BCC thanks town of Bremen for disposing of several trees overhanging the road that were infested with brown tail moths.

Map of land accessible to public

New parcels acquired or gifted to Coastal Rivers have been included in the map/brochure. One (or two) will abutt the Hillside Trail eventually making it a very desirable walk to Pemaquid Lake. The Wild Lilly parcel of approximately 125 acres(?) on Pemaquid Pond enlarges Pemaquid Pond Preserve.

Trail Work Day

Kerry Kohner reporting. Kerry, Walter and Terry walked the Hilton O'Connor trail assessing needs. A discussion of keeping the large field open from encroaching trees was had. BCC decided that they need to consult Coastal River experts and form a policy from their recommendations. They could bring this up at next year's town meeting by warrant to involve more of the community.

Brad Weigel of CRCT was present to detail their plan for Trail work with Trail Tamers on May 25. This includes, removal of culvert, bog bridge repair, stair extension necessitated by changing slope of the bank and old kiosk removal. BCC thanks Brad for his quick response to cutting up a large blowdown. Part of it was saved as potential use as a bench.

Several commented on the desirability of more benches strategically placed on the trail.

Lincoln Academy walk. An initial walk was held with 3 alternative education students their teacher and Kerry. It is unlikely it will continue because of lack of interest from the students. Thank you Kerry for reaching out. Ideas for engaging more children and Bremen children was discussed

Hay Property

Kerry Kohnert reported an unfortunate encounter when checking on the property. She was followed home by an aggressive truck driver and she felt threatened. This happened a couple times that day. She reported it to the Sheriff's department.

Concerns about abuse of the property by people using drugs and leaving needles around last year. Because of the remoteness it is ideal for such goings on. The town could have a camera to deter and record such issues.

The town landing was also brought up as a place of occasional vandalism and unlawful activity. Perhaps the town could install cameras there as well.

Other

Susan Davis reported that she had looked at the CEO report concerning property on the Town Landing Road in the shoreland zone and that it included several violations of the shoreland zone. She suggested that BCC encourage the town to remediate any damage done and that BCC's only involvement be to support the protection of sensitive lands in Bremen.

Summer projects

Coastal Rivers has been an important partner in maintaining and improving the Hilton O'Connor trail. They intend to finish the projects planned but will be busy with the newly acquired properties this year. The plan to reroute and build bog bridges on Hillside trail most likely will be postponed. Because of the enormity of the work needed, BCC will wait on the availability of CRCT rather than start improving the trail this year. The cost involved of doing the work without CRCT would be prohibitive.

Clear objectives for trails

Hilton O'Connor trail to include

Widen the trail, Walter Radloff project

Work on invasives, Terry Marsh

Schedule for routine maintenance, Terry Marsh

More volunteers from Bremen are desired

Hay Property

Multiflora rose in field, start eradicating

Clam Island

Routine trail maintenance, led by Susan Davis

Chainsaw workshop cost

BCC will cover the cost of any BCC member who takes the chainsaw workshop with plans to use the skill on the Bremen trails.

BCC delighted of interest by Naomi Martin to the town trails. She is a newcomer to Bremen.

Adjourned. 6:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davis