

Town of Bremen
Conservation Commission Minutes
Video Conference Call
November 1, 2023

BCC Members Present: Ann Nesslage, chair; Mary Berger; Susan Davis, Kerry Kohnert, Naomi Martin, Walter Radloff
Selectman Liaison Present: Wendy Pieh

Visitors Present:

October Minutes approved

Follow up

Cameras. BCC encourages town of Bremen to pursue use of cameras to protect property and persons.

BCC Budgeting plans: BCC doesn't anticipate more expenditures for Hilton O'Connor trail according to Coastal rivers. However, future plans may require expenses for new projects.

Naomi Martin approved by BOS for BCC commission

HOC trail

Planned transplants of tree seedlings done by Naomi and Kerry. State Forrester pointed out interesting flora and invasives. Also possible function of parallel stone walls on the property brought up including sheep run, drainage.

Kerry K and Susie D attended Maine Association of Conservation Commissions.

Comprehensive plans very important in planning for future growth and protection of natural resources and working waterfront. Bremen plan is dated 2004 but Wendy Pieh explained that it was reviewed informally in 2014 and thought to be adequate for town needs. However, that review was not clear on the website.

It may be necessary to review again in light of the changes in weather, solar and wind alternatives, and growth in the area. BCC encourages a review of the Comprehensive Plan

Grants are available but require specific goals and sometimes collaboration. Example, a trail around ballfield.

This will be pursued.

Maps of high value resource land in Bremen is available from the department of Inland forest and fisheries, state of Maine. These have been ordered and a **presentation** will be planned for winter. Maps and presentation are free. Other groups and individuals in Bremen will be invited to the presentation

Invasive plants in Bremen are a major issue which BCC is considering tackling. It will be a large project and will need town of Bremen support. Invasives are killing native trees and pushing out native plants. This has been accelerating as the invasives have largely left unchecked in many areas of town. The town trails and Clam Island are actively working on the problem but many properties and roadsides are examples of real problem areas. The first step would be to get an analysis of invasives in the town and then formulate a plan We would hope to find assistance from state agencies and/ or use some BCC budget if necessary.

Ideas for managing invasives and better managing the entire Hay Property discussed. The new plans for mowing may solve this.

Monitoring wildlife on Hilton O' Connor trail. Other towns have set up game cameras to identify the diversity of wildlife on their lands. BCC would purchase if a plan is in place.

Abandoned property on Turner road may be useful for town projects or in conjunction with Coastal Rivers. Consider ideas such as community garden, trails for disabled, or challenged before selling.

Muskrat Pond beaver situation meeting held. S. Davis arranged for Sarah Gladu of Coastal Rivers and Diantha Robinson, beaver deceiver lead, to provide information addressing the low water issue. Outcome of the meeting was to monitor for beaver activity. Beavers were not observed this summer. Beavers routinely come and go depending on food sources. Overall the pond is healthy according to S. Gladu

Email address for BCC needed. For website

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Davis