

## **Brentwood Conservation Commission Minutes**

### **Meeting on October 12th, 2022**

Members present: Andy Laroche, Mark Young, Bob Stephens, Bob Mantegari, and Lise McNaughton.

Alternate members present: Matt Lipinski

Bob S. called the meeting to order at 6:34

1. Motion to appoint M. Lipinski to a voting member by M. Young, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Laroche, motion approved 4-0
2. Approval of public minutes from previous meeting
  - a. Edit #8 on September minutes
  - b. Motion to approve by M. Lipinski, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Laroche, approved 6-0
3. Property Reviews
  - a. None
4. Bills
  - a. None
5. Composting
  - a. Gabby Kelly, resident, interested in composting, asked about what has Brentwood done with composting from a town perspective. Exeter has a town sponsored program. She wondered if 1% of waste converted to composting, could save Brentwood \$50K from solid waste budget.
  - b. B. Mantegari, explained why composting is with Conservation rather than newly created Energy Committee.
  - c. B. Stephens, Conservation Comm has looked at twice by previous Boards, and were made at the Library presentations by Mr. Fox's Compost, but couldn't determine that composting would financially benefit the Town. B. Stephens personally supports composting as he does it at home. We will continue to discuss this topic with input from town residents until a decision is made.
  - d. Gabby Kelly asked what data is needed to support this initiative.
  - e. B. Stephens, responded by suggesting examples of success from other towns, both participation and cost savings. For example, Exeter wanted to reduce it's solid waste by 20K lbs, gathered 15K lbs thus far this year, which only amounted to a \$800 savings to the Town, but may be offset by other costs to residents.
  - f. L. McNaughton noted Brentwood is really rural, unlike Exeter, and might need to educate residents on benefits if decided.
  - g. B. Mantegari, also composts at home, current trash/solid waste contract is up for renewal in two years, recyclables always changing
  - h. A. Laroche, Brentwood is rural, most people with gardens compost.
  - i. Kristin Aldrich, resident, said towns might get grants for composting programs
  - j. Russ Kelly, resident, wanted to make sure that supporters of composting get an audience with Con Comm to discuss potential programs
  - k. Gabby Kelly has applied for a spot on the Energy & Efficiency Comm, wondered what does Con Comm want from her in regard to help in considering any composting program.
  - l. B. Stephens asked for goals, ideas, and data. Whatever initiative is considered, that a description of any potential program be communicated to town residents, such as through the BNL, etc.

6. Budget
  - a. Selectman have suggested a level funded budget as last year, on order of \$14,000
  - b. B. Mantegari motion to approve a level funded budget for next fiscal year, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Laroche, approved 6-0
7. Mower
  - a. B. Stephens have received 3 costs from Chappelle Tractor for various options. Do we purchase something to maintain trails, or fields, or both? Do we buy a walk-behind mower or a tractor, or something to drag behind an ATV?
  - b. M. Lipinski, asked is it Con Comm responsibility to mow the fields/trails?
  - c. L. McNaughton, agreed push-mower makes sense for trails, and use someone with a tractor for field perimeter.
  - d. B. Stephens: Can we use Highway equipment for fields? Do we consider buying a mower for trails? Overall sentiment is, if we buy a tractor, then Con Comm would be responsible for mowing.
  - e. B. Mantegari, suggest Highway Dept do the work, we supply the tractor and gas.
  - f. M. Lipinski, agrees with B. Mantegari
  - g. B. Mantegari, what if we ask the town landscaper if they would cut the field perimeter grass? How much?
  - h. Bob. Stephens, we need to have meeting with Wayne (Highway Dept) and Karen (Town Administrator) to discuss if Hwy can assist. Looking at 10/17. We should avoid trail mowing until needed and focus on fields for now.
8. Town Markers
  - a. B. Mantegari, Town needs volunteers to assist in identifying (using GPS) markers that border with bordering towns. Can Con Comm help? B. Mantegari will volunteer. Stephens and Mantegari and McNaughton will try to meet with Town Administrator Monday to discuss this and DPW doing field mowing.
9. Road Sign
  - a. Class 6 road sign for mud warnings was presented to ConComm by Trails Com, B. Stephens showed example. Brian Silva of Con Comm agreed to it, but Con Comm would still like some form of Mud-o-meter.
  - b. A vote was taken, motion by B. Mantegari, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Lipinski, approved 6-0, to request signs by Trail Com, as amended with mud-o-meter?
10. Shannon Way
  - a. Planning Board forwarded road designs for two new homes being planned on Shannon Way with frontage on RTE 125.
  - b. No exception taken by Con Comm
11. Non-Public Minutes
  - a. From September Con Comm meeting, Motion by B. Mantegari, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Lipinski, approved 6-0
12. When is hunting season (multiple) asked by resident Liz Faria. B. Stephens will address this.
13. Motion to adjourn by B. Mantegari, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Lipinski, approved 6-0
14. Next meeting on 11/2/2022