

Minutes of Town of Conway Open Space Committee (OSC) Meeting

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 6 PM Town Hall

Members In Attendance: Janet Chayes, Michele Turre, Mac McCoy, Aimee Anderson,

The meeting was also attended by Julia Washburn, a new Conway resident who has volunteered to join the OSC. She goes before the Selectboard Board tomorrow!

Meeting called to order and began at 6:07

1. **Approve Mar. 20, 2024 minutes** Approved.

2. Kestrel Box Project

10 boxes were made and installed by volunteers. Materials purchased included an orchard ladder for annual spring cleaning. Janet requested that the committee send thank you notes, especially to Nelson Shiflett who provided the posts and planting, Andy Benko who made the boxes. Mac to make letterhead, Amy will do a note with her nice penmanship.

3. Solar Panels at Boyden Farm

An article in the Recorder noted that the Conway Planning Board was approached about initial steps for a solar installation. The specific location of the potential site was not known. Janet will ask the Planning Board for more information.

4. So. River Meadow Interpretative Signage Project

Julia has a professional background in park management, including signage. Her business partner has graphic capability and has volunteered to assist with ideas and layout. Members discussed the main focus of the signage (the history of the area, the mixed use that the town members wanted, mainly agricultural, recreational, and providing natural areas to support wildlife that can also be available as demonstration. Julia noted that inclusion of a land acknowledgement would be appropriate.

Janet mentioned that the Woodland Partnership who helped plant the riverside trees wanted a sign to review and acknowledge their role.

Julia discussed sign material considerations: durability and integrating natural elements such as locust for support posts.

Julia offered to host a meeting to review the text and further details. Coordination to happen.

Discussion about focus.

5. So. River Meadow

Garlic Mustard Pull, May 19th 10 am (in case of rain, delay to 2pm)

- Amy to purchase heavy duty paper leaf bags at large hardware store for collection.
- Mac to email event notice to the OSC email list one week prior.

Treating Spring Invasives: lesser celandine & gout weed

- Julia relayed information she collected from a national park botanist. Treatment of lesser celandine is difficult. They use glyphosate at a 1.5-2% concentration, mixed with surfactant and a dye. Spraying must happen just after the leaves come out or before they finish

blooming. There are brands rated for wetlands. Same treatment for gout weed. This means the application would not happen until next year. To be organized later

Broken Plank on path

- Mac to measure to confirm what's needed; Janet to purchase boards.

6. Updates/Continuing Issues

Bigelow Meadow Sign

- Michele investigating the sign.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, at 6pm in Town Hall and/or by Zoom

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05pm