Minutes of the CCC Meeting of Thursday, July 20, 2023

Location: Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 9:06

Attending was Katherine Freygang Heidi Cunnick, Deb Bennett so a quorum was established.

An revised agenda was approved with the addition of Invasives and SCT. Katie was designated as captain of HMPA instead of Deb Bennett as she is the official representative of this group.

The minutes of the June 27, 2023 Special Meeting were approved for Deb to post.

**Old Business**

**Section #1-Projects Near Completion**

The **Lake Task Force** Event on July 15th at Cream Hill Lake was very successful and well-attended. The presentation by Aer Limnology’s Larry Marciano was augmented by the discovery of milfoil in the collection of samples provided by Heidi Cunnick. More research on this plant will be revealed whether it is the non-native variety, or the native. Funds for the mapping of the invasives in the lake will be included in next years’ budget. To help the mapping and testing, Chair Heidi Cunnick has donated a $200 buoy with an anchor to mark the exact location of the testing. If funds remain, the group will vote to reimburse Cunnick. The group has already funded a Secchi disk at the lake used to test the clarity of the water. CCC funds have also paid for a baseline water testing by Aer Limnology. Heidi will also forward the PowerPoint presentation to public supporter, Margie Purnell to post on the CCC website.

**Section #2-Education, Outreach and Annual Plan**

Chair Cunnick met with Gordon to discuss various items. As a component of the advisory role of CCC, Heidi will send the CCC planning grid to Gordon who is interested in developing a cross-town coalition to develop a resiliency plan for Cornwall. It will be based on the HRRC model. Katie will send Heidi general resources as provided by Sustainable CT.

**Section #3-Program Monitoring**

**HSMP-**Katie reported about the upcoming Phase #3 of the project whereby plants will be ordered and installed along the riverbank were the legacy oaks where cut. Weeding continues on the bioswales with good success by volunteers.

**Ridgelines**-Heidi met with P&Z chair Anna Timmell who recommended that if CCC wants to move the project forward, we should engage the town. Perhaps a public poll on ridgelines could be developed to promote an equity perspective on the subject.

**AG Fair-**Heidi will contact Bill Dineen head of the Ag Fair to make sure that all groups “Under the Green Tent to be listed on the flyer. These groups include COGS, HVA, CCC, CCT, SCT, Garden Club. It was decided that the theme for the event will be Invasives. Deb to get map from Zetterstrom on Japanese Knotweed. Publications including disposal of invasive plants, calendars for best time to treat invasives, visual displays of same. Invasives can also include non-native insects like Spotted Lanternfly. Buckthorn blasters purchased with CCC funds will be distributed. Katie oversees getting the crew to pick up, assemble and dismantle the tent that will be donated by the Women’s Society.

**Composting-**Nancy was nominated to lead this ongoing effort. Permits for the composting at the transfer station are still pending because of the discovery of wood turtle habitat.

**Invasives-**Deb has been actively working with a local applicator to treat sites designated by the town crew, Gordon and CCC, CCT to eradicate stands of JKW. This work will be accomplished in late July.

**SCT-**Katie is checking on an Invasive Management proposal offered by SCT which is looking for a community-wide project and will report more at the next meeting. Funding would be a very positive step forward on this front. She also reported on 3 round tables with EDC to develop sustainable actions for local businesses. She suggested one program that might be used as an example-to develop a energy monitoring system with the new principle of CCS.

**NRI-**Katie will work with community member Margie Purnell to put an updatable NRI on the website whereby items could be added or deleted to the existing Kings Mark report .

The meeting was adjourned at 10 am