Minutes of the CCC September 21, 2023

Location: Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am.

Attending was Katherine Freygang, Deb Bennett, Heidi Cunnick. Public member Lisa Keskinen also attending.

The minutes were approved with the caveat that they will be reviewed at the next meeting as email difficulties prevented all members from reviewing on a timely basis.

Then the agenda was approved with the note that not all subjects need to be addressed if there was no new information.

Treasurer Nancy Berry will report next month as she was absent for this meeting.

**Section #1 A discussion of items near completion or recently completed as reported by the captains**

Agricultural Fair-Katie reported that it was a great success this year. The tent was in a new, very visible spot and it housed CCT, CCC, and the Garden Club. It was noted that the signage was greatly improved. The invasive display, featuring vases of the live plants, were especially appreciated by the public as was the display of colorful brochures and handouts supplied by NWCD. It was noted by Nancy that the laminated invasive match game was not as utilized as it could have been had there been more children coming to the booth.

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

Heidi will try to assemble a pamphlet for the Newcomers Tea explaining the mission of the CCC. Nancy to circulate with newcomers.

SCT-Katie is working with CCS and others to develop a new app for the proposed solar panels at the school. Other interested parties are James LaPorta, EDC and the new principle.

Social Services is accessing new programs with the state for low income residents to help with the new energy costs.

Chairperson Heidi Cunnick has been asked by the First Selectman to work with a committee to develop a plan for how the town prepares for extreme weather events. She will attend a small town weather resiliency program in the near future. This will be paid for by the Town.

Invasives- Deb reported than Northeast Weed, Pond and Turf is currently working with the town and CCT to eradicate more of the invasive Japanese Knotweed and some Phragmites. A discussion ensued about a simple panel program to explain Cornwall invasives Eradication and Control focusing on mechanical and chemical means of control to the public. This might occur late winter at the library.

HRRC- Frustration was reported at the lack of communication with the railroad and the committee. They will only talk to the selectmen of the towns involved (Salisbury, Falls Village, New Milford, Kent, Cornwall). No direct communication has occurred despite letters gathered from all the selectmen. It was suggested that the group bring the matter to the Attorney General and the COGS.

HMSP-Phase III is scheduled to happen this Fall. However, DEEP is proposing a major scale back of the original plan and budget. Bruce Bennett is negotiating with the State as the Fall planting deadline is rapidly approaching.

Ridgeline Regulations-Chairperson Cunnick is eager to bring a revisit of the P&Z presentation to the Selectmen. Deb to ask Darrell Cherniske of for a final presentation to this audience. This presentation was in response to Gordon’s interest in the same because of hydrology issues.

Cream Hill Lake- it was noted again that there will be a free state mapping of the invasive milfoil discovered during the Water Testing Event earlier this year. The eradication will need funds from donors or grants.

The permanent buoy to secure the location for testing was installed by Heidi and others.

Extreme Weather Response-This should probably be a new category because of First Selectman’s concern. Deb to get Culvert mapping for Heidi.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09.