

Georgetown Conservation Commission
Minutes
January 10, 2022 at 6:30 PM – via Zoom

I. **Call to order and welcome. 6:31 p.m.**

II. **Determine quorum.** Present: Kathy Gravino, chair*, Roger Bogart*, Aria Eee**, Ruth Indrick*, Nancy Kinner*, Maureen Stanton*, and Jessica Weller** [*Member / **Associate Member].
Select board member: Bronwen Tudor.

III. **Minutes** from the November 8, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

IV. **Project Updates**

☐ **UNH Student Project: Georgetown Energy Working Group** – Students presented their project to UNH. In January, they will plan a trip to Georgetown to tour the old landfill site, and to evaluate the school's heating system. Kathy and Nancy will see about access to the school.

☐ **Big Night(s)** - Jessica submitted an article to *The Tide* to raise awareness and get people excited. She will also have two Zoom meetings in March will provide the plan and more information. She'll also visit the school to talk to students to engage them as well. She will keep us informed so we can promote events/Zoom meetings and get involved.

V **Old Business**

☐ **Climate Change Adaptation Report** - Kathy will get this project started soon. There may be an opportunity to coordinate timing so that the update is ready for a program on Climate Change in the Gulf of Maine possibly slated for spring or summer (see below).

VI **New Business**

☐ **Program on Climate Change in Gulf of Maine** - Nancy is in the early planning stages and has reached out to a potential speaker. Ruth and Nancy will coordinate on other possible speakers.

☐ **Community Resilience Partnership - Community Action Grants** - Ruth reported on this new grant funding source to help communities implement projects from the state's climate action plan. For any grant, we need: 1) a municipal resolution that designates a group; 2) a self-assessment; 3) a public workshop. Grants are up to \$50,000 per community. There are four rounds of deadlines. No matching funds are required. The initial deadline for the first round of funding is March 22, but there are later funding cycles. Ruth will gather a subcommittee to review the guidelines and look for opportunities to apply for funding, and will send an email to schedule a Zoom meeting to investigate the application process, possible projects, and next steps.

☐ **Brown Tail Moth** - This issue is tabled for now. There might be an opportunity to contribute to inventorying the moth population in Georgetown when they emerge in the spring.

☐ **Annual Budget Review** - We will discuss the budget next month when we have figures from the town.

□ **Survey of Round the Cove (John Wood)** - John will begin survey work at RTC this summer. Kathy is coordinating this project, and will work to get a contract approved from the town for John's work.

□ **Tidal Flooding on Williams Road** - There are year-round residents on this road, who cannot drive across the road when the tide is high, which poses an access risk during emergencies. Last year, the UNH students reviewed this site. Williams Road is not a culvert-related issue, but rather the problem is the height of the road. The solution is to build up the road; the town would be responsible for this work.

□ **Possible Future Events** - Aria suggested a collaboration with the recreation committee to host a birding event on the island in the spring.

A motion was made to coordinate with the Recreation Committee on a birding event in spring 2022.

The motion passed unanimously.

Aria will report back to the recreation committee on our agreement, and contact some local birding experts. Jointly we will determine what the best timing is for the event and who we might invite to host. An owling event would be a great possible future event as well.

VII **Next Meeting:** February 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

VIII. **Meeting Adjourned** at 7:23 p. m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Stanton