

Plainfield Conservation Commission
October 16, 2024 Minutes - DRAFT

Present: Rose Paul, Becky Atchinson, Julie Hackbarth
Guest: Alek Sokolovsky

Status of Gonyeau Road Near Town Forest : Alek Sokolovsky attended this meeting after seeing the agenda item about the status of Gonyeau Road near the Town forest. Rose shared that Mary Trerice investigated and reported about damages to Gonyeau Road and explained that currently the public is unable to access the town forest via car due to storm damage to sections of the road beyond the town truck turn around. The Commission has not been able to successfully find grants or obtain Town support to do maintenance in sections of this road beyond the turn around. Alek shared that he as well as others in the neighborhood regularly walk Gonyeau Road to the town forest. He confirmed that there has been more damage to sections of the road from the recent storms and that the town forest trails are overgrown and no longer easily walkable. Rose noted that the trails haven't been mowed for several years due to glitches in hiring someone to do the mowing. Alek asked whether the trails could be mowed so that walkers can continue on the trails as part of a walk. A suggestion was made that a member of the Conservation Commission and a representative of the neighborhood walkers arrange to attend a Selectboard meeting to discuss Town Forest maintenance with the Selectboard. Rose and Julie plan to go to see the current condition of the road and trails on October 19 and report back at our November meeting.

Meeting minutes: The May 15, 2024 and September 18, 2024 meeting minutes were approved with corrections. Julie will have these minutes posted on the Conservation Commission web page.

Discuss Potential Water Quality Project Near Town Recreation Field. The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) would like to move ahead with a riparian buffer planting project at the town recreation field. This project is aimed at reducing the phosphorus load in Lake Champlain. CVRPC needs a letter of support from our Select Board and will administer the project.

Rose contacted Jamie Spector from the Recreation Field Committee about the buffer project and heard back that the project is fine to proceed with. Rose will prepare and provide a letter of support to CVRPC.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Hackbarth