

**Franklin Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
June 9, 2020
City Hall Basement – 7:30 pm**

Call to Order

- Approval of the March 10, 2020 meeting minutes

Old Business

- BioBlitz Program Update in light of Covid-19

New Business

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Other Business

Adjournment

FRANKLIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2020

Present: Nita Tomaszewski, Mike Mullavey, Roy Gilbreth (by phone), Glenn Morrill, Timothy Stangroom, Bob Morin

Next meeting: April 14, 2019 - 7:30 pm, City Hall Basement

Meeting called to order by Nita at 7:35 pm

Minutes of the January 14, 2019 meeting were distributed for review. Glenn moved and Roy seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes.

I Old Business

NH BioBlitz Program Update – Bob briefed the Commission on plans for implementing the BioBlitz program. As of the date of this meeting, the identified dates of the BioBlitz Program is September 19th, 7am – 2pm. A media push, led by UNH will begin after July 5th. Bob will notify interested groups of BioBlitz date. We will need volunteers to handle registration, food, directions, communication and parking etc. Bob asked whether we should we cover costs for volunteer refreshments and other miscellaneous costs or should we use our current budget or request use of our trust fund account? Lastly, Bob asked whether the Commission recommends importing Great Gains trail information into the Trail Finder website.

II New Business

UMRLAC Update – A copy of the UMRLAC meeting agenda of March 9, 2020 was provided to the Commission. No action required.

NHACC Legislative Update – Recent NHACC news was distributed to the Commission.

NHACC Annual Survey – The 2020 NHACC annual survey were distributed to the Commission.

III Other Business

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Franklin Conservation Commission

BioBlitz Program

Planning Call with Charlotte Thompson

March 12, 2020 – 9:30am

Topics

Participant Recruitment

Expected number of participants = 75-100

Can UNH handle this number of people?

Charlotte: Yes, we can handle these numbers of people. If necessary, and in order to keep the groups smaller rather than larger, we can double up the number of each specialized groups

Can we double up the number of sessions?

Charlotte: Yes. We are in the process of identifying the number of and specializations of group leaders. We will be locking them in in the coming weeks and will let you know who they are. Also, we will identify a date on which the group leaders will come to Franklin to do a pre-BioBlitz walk through.

Recruitment effort prior to July 5th media blitz

Continued contact with groups

Bob: The commission will continue to spread the word about the BioBlitz in advance of the media blitz in July. Our aim is to get a solid handle of the number of people who will participate.

Commissioners will serve as volunteers for services

Bob: The commission will serve as volunteers during the event, coordinating such things as registration, parking, snack, general info, etc.

Trail Finder

Bob: The commission supports including the Great Gains trails into the Trail Finder.info website.

Charlotte: We are in the process of hiring an intern who will be tasked with walking trails and working the data into Trail Finder. The intern can visit the Great Gains Forest to gather trail data in the coming months and work it into Trail Finder in advance of the September BioBlitz.

Bob: The commission will be ready to help the intern identify the trails and their designation as snowmobile trails, hiking, or mountain bike trails.

Franklin Conservation Commission

BioBlitz Program

Planning Call with Charlotte Thompson

May 12, 2020 – 9:30am

Topics

BioBlitz Date

Current date is September 19th, from 7am – 2pm

Bob: Will the BioBlitz take place in light of Covid-19?

Charlotte: Two other towns were to be included in program, one schedule in May, the other later in the year. We had to postpone the program scheduled in May until next year. Whether we maintain the timing of the second town is still up in the air. We are hoping the Franklin BioBlitz will go ahead in September but it is too early to tell. The UNH BioBlitz team must follow UNH guidance, which at this time will not permit gatherings of this sort. However, the situation is dynamic and could easily change in the coming months. We will have to wait and see. Hopefully, we'll know more next month.

UNH BioBlitz

UNH Specialists

Bob: Is the recruitment of specialist going okay?

Charlotte: I have yet to lock in the specialists to the September date given the current circumstances. I am hoping to be able to do so next month. We still have time since the planned media blitz is not scheduled to happen until July. Also, we have not been able to bring on the GPS intern yet to help out with mapping the trails.