

Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of April 7, 2014

Meeting convened at 7:00 PM.

Members present: Nancy Lightbody, Jerry Goodall, Sarah Boudreau, Susan Gilpin, Steve DeCrosta, and new member Paul Burlin; by phone, Aaron Svedlow.

Also present: Town of Falmouth staff members: Amanda Stearns and Theo Holtwijk.
Town Council members: Claudia King and Chris Orestis, Council liaison to FCC.

The meeting was brought to order by Jerry Goodall, with introductions around the table. Subcommittee reports were postponed to the next meeting in order to retain focus on the agenda.

Agenda: a special meeting to determine how the Falmouth Conservation Commission can best support the goals and implementation of Falmouth's Comprehensive Plan.

Meeting centered on discussion of FCC's role concerning the 2013 Comprehensive Plan, with focus being to:

- Identify relevant elements
- Prioritize them
- Choose which ones to implement in 2014/2015

With advice, guidance, and background information from Chris Orestis, Theo, and Amanda, we determined that:

1. As priority actions, the FCC should try to (in no particular order)
 - a. Work toward quality open space
 - b. Educate citizens about the dangers of invasive plants, including stewardship of town-owned lands
 - c. Protect wetlands, including mapping of vernal pools, stream crossing and culverts
 - d. Educate citizens about nonpoint pollution sources and possible ways to stem stormwater runoff, including information about sea level rise and erosion.
2. We should not put too much on our plate, and choose carefully which items to focus on.
3. We should continue what we are currently doing but not go entirely off on our own.
4. Chris will share this information with the other members of the Town Council during the "committee updates" part of the agenda.
5. Amanda (with others) will work on updating the FCC mission statement that is on the Web site.

In addition, the Conservation Commission approved the appointment of Sarah Boudreau as its representative to the Ad Hoc Route 100 Committee.

Next meeting Monday, May 5, 7 p.m.

Submitted by Sarah Boudreau