

BOLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 3, at 7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting at Town Hall

Present: Rod Parlee (Chair), Alan Bicknell and Chris Vandenburg

Via Zoom: Brenda Cataldo

Not in Attendance: Katelynn King & Peter Van Dine

1.0 Call Meeting to Order – Roll Call 7:03 p.m.

2.0 Minutes Review of August 3, 2026, Zoom Meeting- A motion was made by Alan Bicknell, seconded by Chris Vandenburg to accept the minutes and were approved unanimously 4-0, with the following corrections: 6.2 –“many” instead of “may”

3.0 Public Comment – Chris Vandenburg mentioned his parents found spotted lantern flies at Shady Lane in Bolton. Rod Parlee suggested we contact DEEP about this location.

4.0 Financial Report

4.1 Pizza for RBV at Herrick Park Lodge - Rod Parlee discussed allocating up to \$60.00 from the Conservation Fund, to purchase pizza for the upcoming RBV which will be held at Herrick Park Lodge on October 3rd from 10-4pm. Motion was made by Chris Vandenburg and seconded by Brenda Cataldo to allocate up to \$60.00 from the Conservation Fund, to purchase pizza for the upcoming RBV. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

4.2 Personalized BCC Canopy Estimate (Brenda)- Brenda Cataldo discussed the different customized options for a 10x10 white canopy. A motion was made by Alan Bicknell to allocate up to \$650.00 from the Conservation Activity Fund, to purchase a personalized canopy tent from EZ-Up International, Chris Vandenburg seconded. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

4.3 FBL Membership Status- FBL Membership has not yet been confirmed.

5.0 New Business

5.1 RBV on October 3rd at Herrick Park Lodge 10-4PM (Data/Training/Outreach/Pizza) – Rod Parlee discussed going over RBV equipment prior to the event. Rod will contact the Scorso and Giglio Families for permission to access their properties. Bolton Pond Brook, Baker, French and Railroad Brook will be tested. Rod Parlee stated we should wait until we get results back from this year’s collection before eliminating future collections at brooks. Rod Parlee suggested we have a 40-minute individual refresher phone call on Thursday, October 1st from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

5.2 Update on Water Temperature Monitors, Mapping and Extik Location – Chris/Peter- Chris Vandenburg showed mapping and printouts from Peter Van Dine, for stream temperature monitoring. Rod Parlee stated that the goal is to obtain an updated map of all streams in Bolton. Chris Vandenburg also stated that the Railroad Brook hobo is damaged. Battery has a lot of build-up making it unable to download information. Cleaning may repair it. Rod Parlee suggested borrowing the Extik from Peter Van Dine to use at the RBV event.

5.3 Bolton Lake Watershed Conservation Alliance GIS Maps- Rod Parlee brought up the new GIS maps of the Bolton Lakes showing the rare Atlantic white cedar, wetland areas and vernal pools. Preservation of open space is a priority of the BLWCA. Amy Patterson of the CLCC will be attending the next meeting.

5.4 IWC and P&Z Monitoring Reports- Rod Parlee stated the IWC met on the last Tuesday of the month for a very short meeting. Rod Parlee contacted Alyssa Baroso (Wetlands Agent) and shared erosion photos from Alan Bicknell, regarding a potential violation, with lack of silt fencing on Vernon Road going into Bolton Lake. Rod Parlee also contacted IWC regarding a property on Goodwin Road that has heavy construction equipment, material, etc., within 100' of a stream draining to a reservoir. Owner was contacted by IWC. P & Z meeting was cancelled. Rod Parlee went over the 2004 Open Space Plan with focus on the Old Manchester Drive-In and its high matrix evaluation results. There has been no new open space plan since 2004. Rod Parlee will forward plan and mapping to conservation members.

5.5 Tabling Opportunity at Living History Event at Heritage Farm on September 19th & 20th Rod Parlee suggested we allocate up to \$30.00 for local native apples, from the Conservation Activity Fund, which will be available for people visiting our table. Alan Bicknell made a motion and Chris Vandenburg seconded to appropriate up to \$30 from Conservation Activity Fund for the purchase of apples. Motion passed unanimously 4-0. Rod Parlee also discussed displaying maps, and brochures as well as a sign-up sheet for workparties and events.

6.0 Continuing Business

6.1 Botanical Survey of the Bolton Notch/Valley Falls Watershed- Rod Parlee reported on the kayak trip with Sigrun Godwa and Alan Bicknell, conducted at Bolton Notch Pond. Numerous aquatic plants were collected. Lots of bladderwort were found which represents good water quality. PH meter did not function. Sigrun Gadwa would like to do a presentation on her findings in October. Rod Parlee suggested giving the presentation at Bentley Memorial Library in November.

6.2 Recommendation to Preserve Old-Manchester Drive-In Property- Chair shared zoning map and discussed existing open space. The Bolton Land Trust will apparently be meeting this month and will review letter written by the Commission on July 7, 2026.

6.3 Herrick Park Soccer Field Modified Stormwater Plans - Rod Parlee and Alan Bicknell had a quick meeting with Jim Rupert, Town Administrator. Jim Rupert will be stepping down but will remain active, assisting with the soccer field, and stormwater plan, etc.

6.4 Data Collection and Transfer Working Group – Flash Drive, Graphs, Tidbit, Batteries-

Rod Parlee reported that the password did not work. It was suggested that data be sent through a personal computer and then upload them with email attachments. Rod Parlee asked if Chris Vandenburg could put together a graph of stream temperatures for calendar. Chris Vandenburg will check with Onset about purchasing new tidbit batteries.

6.5 BSA Troop 73 Projects at Freja Park with Nathan Slater and Lorelei Charney -

Alan Bicknell stated the Lorelei Charney and the troop did a great job of removing autumn olive, wild roses and bittersweet. 4 plants were planted on the Shenipsit Trail by the volunteers. 3 blueberries and 1 Carolina raspberry were planted along the right of way. Rod Parlee shared an email from Nathan Slater- In October he will be planning dates to start bridge work.

7.0 Reports: Bike Walk Bolton (CSP), FBL, BLWCA, SRWP (MS-4), CACIWC-

BWB- Chris Vandenburg reported that he is still trying to connect with BWB. FBL- no reports. BLWCA- Will be conducting new parcel mapping evaluation in conjunction with UCONN and NCCD. SRWP- Rod Parlee could not attend the meeting. CACIWC- Rod Parlee is working on exhibitors for the next convention, to be held on November 14th.

8.0 Correspondence- Town asked the BCC to purge maps and brochures in the cubical that is now shared with the Fire Marshall and others. Alan Bicknell assisted in cleaning file cabinets and maps. Brenda Cataldo will be choosing 13 photos for the 2026-2027 calendar and begin setting up the calendar.

9.0 Adjournment- A motion was made to adjourn by Alan Bicknell and seconded by Chris Vandenburg and passed unanimously 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 P.M. Next meeting will be held October 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom only.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda V. Cataldo

Brenda V. Cataldo, BCC Member



Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for corrections to these minutes and any corrections hereto.

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