



April 15, 2024 - DRAFT

Georgia Conservation Commission Minutes

Call to Order: 6:35

1. **Attendance:** Present - Tom Hargy, Ken Minck, Alysia Catalfamo, Annette Villani, Suz Brown, Jen Kale, Fred Grimm, Guest Barry Snyder
Absent – Noah Lavallee

2. **Minutes:** March – Ken moved to approve, Suz seconded. Motion carried.

4. **Financial:**

CRF (account 9-1-00-00-01.08): \$127,271

General (account A-1-00-00-01.05): \$47,802

Line items (account 1-7-05-80-52.00): \$4,340 (budget still pending approval)

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Select Board minutes:**

On-going business:

1. Signs: Legal trails “No Motor Vehicle” signs received, posts and hardware needed. Ken to purchase.

2. Phragmites controls at SLW: Dennis Bianco is taking over Will Dunkley’s business, he will be in touch regarding treatment of new patch. Plan to try cutting patch down ourselves in July and to continue doing so in successive years.

3. Grants:

a. ACRPC Assessment grant approved for gully on 104A, Task order received, Watershed Consulting Associates to proceed with the work. 1st invoice of 5K submitted to ACRPC for payment. Invoice was forwarded to April.

b. CCRPC Falls trail final design Task Order received, Watershed Consulting Associates to proceed with the work. 1st payment received from CCRPC for the design, \$4,565.02. PHASE 1 archaeological study TBD in Spring 2024. CCRPC will hire UVM for the archaeological work.

4. Boardwalk at RGNA: All materials are on hand. Jen’s family plans to install over April school break.

5. SLW: Possible group shelterwood harvest in site #1 and Site #4. Site visit June 1st and October 11th w/Nan Patch, County Forester. Plan to purchase 1 year membership to ESRI for story map when ready to start working on it. Tom to reach out in May regarding possible logging.

6. Connector trail RGNA to LT4 and bridge replacement: 2024 RTP Application submitted 2/11/24, received notice on 4/9/24 that our application was not chosen for funding. Expect to receive further feedback later this spring. Plan to use maps and additional signage to make location of connector trail more obvious to trail users.

7. VLT: VLT: Caitlan C. invasive signage completed and ordered, should arrive soon. Boot brush received and in Alysia's garage.
8. Deer Brook footbridge: Ken, Tom, and Noah winched as close to the shore as possible and tied it off. Bridge is too short for necessary span. Discussed different materials for beams, possibly using materials from existing bridge, getting estimates for a new bridge.
9. Franklin County NCRD event at Arrowhead Mountain Lake: To be held 6/22/24, time TBD

New Business:

1. Description of Conservation general fund: Discussed draft document
2. Possible canoe/kayak launch on Highbridge Rd: Discussion regarding the site. Plan to investigate further.
3. Tracking trail usage at SLW and RGNA: Plan to try using a basic trail register for at least 1 month.
5. Town budget revote 4/20/24: 10am @ GEMS – discussion around asking for an increase in the GCC budget.
6. New date for buckthorn pulling at SLW: 5/5/24, 11:00 am
7. Wildflower seeds – how to distribute: Will ask community members for name, address, and scope of project – to be distributed to those with appropriate sites while supplies last.

Items not on Agenda:

1. Tree planting at town garage: Moved to 4/21/24 @ 1:00 pm
2. Green Up Day on 5/4: Jen to ask NWSWD how they would like us to be involved this year.