

## WESTMINSTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting, Thursday, 2/2/23 at 7:15 P.M

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87841682392>

Meeting ID: 878 4168 2392

1. Call to Order: Tatiana called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.  
Present: Tatiana Schreiber, Sarah Waldo, Kestrel Craig, Rachael Shaw, guest Kathy Kingston.
2. Adjustments to Agenda: none
3. Acceptance of Minutes: 12/1/2022 and 1/9/23 – Minutes read and accepted by unanimous consent.
4. Communications and Public Comment:  
Kathy Kingston mentioned the availability of ARPA monies that could possibly be used for beaver deceivers/flow devices (maybe for the Henwood Marsh if there is a particular place where they are needed). Michael Daley would like to work on a proposal for this. Kathy will ask him to share it with the WCC when he's done. Kathy will also invite him to our next meeting.
5. Unfinished Business (Discussion / Action) –
  - a) Invasive species brochure – won't be able to get it printed before Town Meeting, but Tatiana will send what she has to Kestrel to work on.
  - b) Website for Conservation Commission – progress  
Rachael will ask Kelley about whether there are any ways to follow up with Letitia.
  - c) Planning follow up event from Henwood/Allen marsh forum. Chris Bernier is willing to talk about fur-bearer/wildlife management and his work, but not the Henwood Hill Marsh (as its privately owned), and not just trapping/hunting. The state has hired a new fur-bearer specialist from Oregon, and hopefully she would be able to attend. Kathy is willing to call our local game warden (Kelley Pierce or Price) and ask if he'd be interested in sharing more information, perhaps at a future event. We formed a subcommittee of Sarah, Kestrel and Kathy to move ahead with the Chris Bernier event. Sarah will try to nail down a date with Chris. Sarah will work on the press release, and share it so that we can make comments. We will check with Chris to make sure he agrees to the press release/format. We will still plan to have the event at the Rockingham Library. Sarah noted that water quality at Henwood is a top priority as well.

6. New Business:

a) Comments on Regional Commissions presentation 1/19/23 - focus was on best development practices for new housing/zoning given the realities of climate change. Tatiana will forward a recording of the meeting to all of us. On a related note, Kathy will send the Natural Resources Section of the Town Plan for us to look at. We will talk about it at the March meeting.

b) Brainstorm new programs for 2023. We are planning a tracking workshop for Saturday March 11, 1-3 pm, weather event date would be Sunday March 12. We will walk from the WW School to Kathy Kingston's property, like last year. Rachael will check on the date with Martha Mitchell, and create a press release, based on last years', which was on 2/6/22. Press release to go to Gazette (Feb 15 due date), Westminster Weekly (WCS), possibly posters to libraries and schools.

c) Recruitment of new Commission members – Table this. We welcome Kathy Kingston who would like to join the Commission. She will follow up with an email to the Selectboard expressing her interest.

7. Other Business: none.

8. Date of Next Meeting: 3/2/23, 7:15 PM , via Zoom

9. Adjournment at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Rachael Shaw, secretary