



Auburn, Maine

Conservation Working Group

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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

The meeting was called to order at the Senior Community Center at 6:02

1) Conservation Working Group members present: Sam Boss, Dave Griswold, Jane Costlow, Lisa Ruccolo, Adam Platz

2) March minutes: Adam made a motion to approve, seconded by Dave, passed unanimously

3) Updates & Discussion

- The pollinator garden seems to be going strong; due to the heat we decided not to do a tour. Jane suggested approaching the Auburn library about their garden beds, both clearing out invasives and planting pollinator-friendly plants. Jane will touch base with Rhyanna, Dave will connect with library staff. Lisa suggested we find a way to include signage about invasives.
- Debrief Earth Day Clean-Up (well attended at each location); Touch a Truck event went incredibly well, worth putting on our regular calendar, assuming the event is annual. Several suggestions, including perhaps producing a brochure about invasives to hand out. [Idea that surfaced in conversation, could be a point for the comp plan, to create a timeline for improving public awareness/signage for recreational trails in Auburn.]
- Sam gave an update on Littlefield Dam removal; RFP went out to select engineering firm, one chosen is a national company with a strong Maine presence. Sam attended interviews with firms. Firm is in the process of doing neighborhood meetings, conversation with neighbors concerned about construction equipment. NOAA also doing some monitoring on Taylor Brook (Kendall Dam and the one near Dag's) to make recommendations regarding fish passage.
- Jane gave brief update on Comp Plan, upcoming sessions.

4) Planning ahead/Work in Progress

- Adam suggestion that we keep an eye on evolving conversations about open space/green space in the community.
- Food Forest – brief discussion, not clear anyone currently is taking the reins.
- Grant opportunities: Lisa has done a great job of looking at opportunities. Might be chance to work with Ag committee on grants targeted at private landowners. Lisa will bring some info to our next meeting, to spark some conversation about where we focus our efforts.
- Jane agreed to serve as Chair, Sam will serve as secretary. Dave noted that we need to be consistent re: meeting day. Stick with third Tuesday.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08.