



# Auburn, Maine

## Conservation Working Group

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### Minutes February 20, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:11 at the Senior Community Center

- 1) Roll Call of Conservation Working Group members. Sam Boss, Amy Dieterich, Dave Griswold, Jane Costlow, Carol Lane, Rhyanna LaRose
- 2) January minutes approved on a motion from Rhyanna, seconded by Amy.
- 3) Updates & Discussion
  - a) Planning Bittersweet video distribution. Good feedback from Liz and others. Carol has worked on the voiceover. Carol will work with Liz re: where to put it on the Auburn website.
  - b) Finalizing planning for pollinator activities
    - i) Confirmed for March 19 with Cooperative Extension (Lynn Holland or David Lowe) for a zoom webinar re: how to promote pollinators in your gardens. Jane will get info to Liz for handout and also potential press release for *Sun Journal* (also possible link on MPBN community events). Rhyanna: will pre-registration be necessary? Conservation WG members can share info on their social media.
    - ii) Sam had a good conversation with Wild Seed Project folks, their education coordinator (Nell Houde) will come talk with us about outreach possibilities.
    - iii) No response yet from Phil on funding for seeds. Meeting on Friday will be helpful in terms of determining cost. Rhyanna will have some seedlings to contribute, both from her own garden and from other students in the Master Gardener program. Sam suggested getting in touch with David Haines at Butler Hill Farm, who has quite a native garden and might have plants to contribute. Also might connect with Stanton Bird Club members, who might be asked to donate established plants. Key question for public works is where the best location is for the plot. Sam also brought up the issue of needing to identify who will maintain the plot. Jane is in touch with Girl Scouts of Maine to identify a local troop, both for Earth Day events and also perhaps with the pollinator garden. Boy Scout troop at the Park Street Methodist church is also a possibility. Other issues to talk about on Friday in meeting with Public Works: do some PR
- 4) Planning ahead/Work in Progress

- a) Little Androscoggin Survey
  - b) Partnerships with other local Conservation orgs, including Royal River Land Trust and ALT
  - c) Developing overall strategic plan for the Conservation Working Group to share with new Council
  - d) Annual Report for 2023
- 5) General Business
- a) Recruiting new Working Group members
- 6) New Business, Upcoming Events, and Agenda Items for March

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Costlow  
Secretary