

BAKERSFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
84th Meeting, June 27, 2016, 1 PM
Unapproved Minutes

Present for a Quorum: Dorothy Allard, Alice Foote, Pat Evans, Mary Lumbra, Larry Krygier, Carolyn Bronz

Guest: Tucker Malone, potential BCC member. He is working with Bridget Butler on Cold Hollow to Canada, and Wildpaths training. He grew up in Bakersfield, then his family moved to NY state. He came back to live with his grandparents. He trains horses and is a junior at Johnson State College.

Guest: Ryan Gerrity from Highgate. He works at Drive Electric VT promoting electric cars, based out of VEIC.

Call to Order: D Allard, 1:00 pm

Approve Minutes of May 23rd meeting: Approved with minor changes, (M Lumbra, P Evans)

Financial report: \$2351.46 on hand, after paying bill for the portalet.

Review of hike to heronry and Wildpaths training: Renee Reiner and her husband bought a large property west of here which contains a blue heron nesting spot. A group of us walked out there to see the 13 nests, approximately 35 birds in all, adults and young ones.

On Saturday June 25, we had a Wildpaths training with Bridget Butler, we collected data starting at the corner of Witchcat and E. Bakersfield Road, and walking south. T Malone created a map showing zones id'd by the state, where wildlife might be crossing the roads..The goal is to check out the state's model to see if the zones actually correspond with wildlife crossings. Anyone can choose to volunteer to track data for this project. We can use GPS coordinates, or i.d. the nearest electric pole for assigning location. Photographs are a plus. D Allard shared the forms for tracking, or information can be put on the website. Looking for animals, alive or dead, or tracks. P Evans, M Lumbra, A Foote, L Krygier, and D Allard each committed to take on a section. Each will walk, drive and observe once a month and report.

Updates on Energy Exhibits for 4th of July celebration:

Ryan Gerrity will put a display together for the July 2nd event. Handy Chevrolet can lend a Volt vehicle for the day. He will contact other owners of electric vehicles and invite them also. He has a banner for the table, and could be used for the parade. M Lumbra and C Bronz volunteered to carry the banner in the parade. M Lumbra has been working with Mark Doremus to come up with materials and information on microscale solar and wind. A Foote has contacted the Gervais farm, about their methane digester. Bethany Reemer at Regional Planning has a large map showing hydropower locations, A Foote will pick this up. She has a light with a solar cell as an exhibit. D Allard will bring her solar dehydrator, canopy, and folding tables. SunCommon will not attend.

Update of website/blog: No progress yet. Kathy Wescom will put agendas and minutes up on the town website.

Bakersfield Community Trails: D Allard will make maps for the trails.

Bakersfield Town Park: P Evans recently found black boxes along the trail: the Dep't of Agriculture is trapping mosquito to investigate mosquito-borne diseases. Shade for the picnic tables would be desirable. We had planned to build a gazebo; possibly we could have a structure built.

Upcoming Event Reminders; Announcements, Public Comment and Other Business:

- 4th July Celebration, July 2

- Mycowalk, July 3. 1 - 4:30
- Hike to heronry late July.
- Ice Cream Social, tentatively the 28th of July, in the Town Park. The Enosburg Band will play.

Sights and Sounds of the Season: C Bronz has been hearing and seeing lots of ravens this year. P Evans and L Krygier have not been seeing the usual insects around this year. No earwigs, no Japanese beetles yet, but they come out later. A Foote said that there is a bad caterpillar infestation in Connecticut which is chewing up the maples. D Allard has seen patchy leaf destruction all over the state (forest tent caterpillars). L krygier has bluebirds nesting at the edge of his garden. He had tree swallows nesting earlier, but something ripped out that nest.

Date for next meeting: Monday, July 25, 1 pm

Adjourn: 2:45 pm