

BAKERSFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Unapproved Minutes, Thursday January 18, 2023, 1 PM
164th Meeting

Call to Order: 1:05

Present for a Quorum: Pat Evans, Alice Foote, Larry Krygier, Maura Horne, Julie Hill, Carolyn Bronz

Approve Previous Minutes – 1-4-24: Motion (JH, MH) to approve. **Passed.** With minor correction.

Financial Report – Julie: \$2416.13 on hand. Receipts in the past year of \$625 for the Carriage Barn estimate, \$500 voted to us from town, \$600 for Town Common flowers. Motion (MH, AF) to accept the report. **Passed.**

Land Donation Discussion: Mr. Dickman absent.

Conservation Reserve Fund – Carolyn shared the petition to put this request on the warning for the town report. Motion to approve the Petition (MH, JH). Discussion and additions and deletions were made to the document. We are on the agenda for the next Selectboard meeting and we will bring this in along with several other issues. **Motion Passed.**

Honor Mary Lumbra in the Town Report: Discussion and corrections were made to this story about Mary and what she meant to the town. Grady was also known as Sonny to the people who knew him from way back. Dan Forand was a close friend of both Mary and Grady and was dedicated to making sure Mary had what she needed after Grady died.

Carriage Barn Update: Alice. Waiting for the decision on the grant which will come early February. The town pays up front to the point of 50% of the grant, then the grantors will issue a check for the first installment. When 75% complete, another reimbursement. The roof on the barn is intact, all three buildings still standing after the big wind.

Town Park, Town Trails – big trees down: These trees are beyond Larry and Pat's ability to deal with them. We will bring this up to the selectboard on Monday.

Town Common – damage from high wind. Alex Barkley contacted Maura about taking care of the tree down on the fence. But we'll wait to check with the selectboard.

Selectboard Meeting Monday Jan. 22 – BCC is on the agenda. Issues:

- The downed trees in the Park and the Common, the damaged fence, the damage to the bell roof. The electrical issue in the Common?
- The Conservation Reserve Fund petition
- Request to honor Mary Lumbra in the Town Report with our story and a photo

Upcoming Event Reminders, Announcements, Public Comment:

- Contrary to what some people understood, there will be an in-person Town Meeting this year. However some accounts, like the Road Account, will be voted by Australian ballot.
- There will be a sugar on snow party at the Historical Society toward the end of March, with music.

- We don't know yet about the luncheon for the town meeting. The Historical Society will meet and make that decision

Sights and Sounds of the Season: Pat saw a tufted titmouse at his bird feeder. Larry is seeing English sparrows. Maura showed a photo of a window bird feeder with a woodpecker and a purple finch on it. Larry saw a lot of tracks out of the back window. He measured 3" across. He guesses a big dog. He followed the tracks, there were lots of deer tracks too, but lost the trail. Julie said a neighbor's German shepherd got loose yesterday. There are fox tracks around. Alice shared a magazine with a photo of a giant tree in Maine. They score the trees in Maine with a system for documenting big trees. There had been a monster oak by the school but it has been cut down. The stump is still there. It was too close to the playground. Forests change over time. There used to be many more oaks here. Then they disappeared. Now they are coming back, especially you can see this down south near I-91. We are in transition. What does this mean for sugaring? Alice recalls that it used to be you let the hogs run free until winter to eat the acorns of the oaks. The deer are changing the forests too, by overbrowsing.

Date for Next Meeting: Feb 15, 1pm

Adjourn 2:12 pm