



Minutes

Special Commission Meeting
4:00 p.m. Thursday, October 15th, 2026

Present

Chris Steel, Chair
Emma Palumbo(Remote), Clerk
JoAnn Hanowski(Remote), Vice-Chair
Jane Hoffman(Remote), Treasurer
Peter Watkinson, Member
Betsy Young, Member
Liza Kiesler, Member

Absent

Emily Cayer, Advisor
Erika Karp, Member
Allison Stegner, Advisor

Members of the Public

N/A

1.) 4:01 pm- Meeting Commences

2.) Annual Election of Officers

Emma was nominated for Clerk by Chris, seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously.
Jane was nominated for Treasurer by Chris, seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously.
Chris was nominated for Chair by Jane, seconded by Betsy. Passed unanimously.

3.) Review and Approve GCC submission to the Town Report

Chris thanked JoAnn for her edits and noted he will send the report and budget request to Brett and MacNeil this evening. Chris moved to approve the updated version, seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously.

4.) Confirm budget request for FY28 for Budget Committee Review

Chris reviewed the budget line items, incorporating feedback and ideas from the commission. Budget adjustments are as follows: *Fly Fishing Festival*: Increased to \$350. *Greensboro Bend Pollinator Bed*: Increased to \$300. *Greensboro Village Pollinator Bed (New Item)*: Added an estimated \$1,750 for FY28.

Betsy suggested incorporating future pollinator beds into the long-term vision and budget. Members brainstormed viable locations in the village, including near the Laurendon apartments, or along Cheney Road.

Chris will apply these changes and correct a minor calculation error in the original spreadsheet.

Chris moved to accept the updated budget; seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously. Chris will forward the updated budget and justification to Brett and MacNeil for Budget Committee review.

5.) **Review Willey Beach Park Trail Plans**

Chris provided a summary of the trail project. A 2014 boardwalk proposal was previously denied by the Development Review Board (DRB) over environmental concerns. Best Management Practices (BMP) now recommend a boardwalk constructed from cedar or hemlock for wet areas.

Chris confirmed in writing with the state that a wetland permit is not required because an existing structure is already in place. The boardwalk will be built to comply with accessibility regulations. Brett has been instrumental in advancing the project.

Chris moved to submit the project to the DRB once all required forms are completed in coordination with Brett; seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously.

6.) **Next Meeting and Other Business:**

Liza scheduled weeding at the Greensboro Bend Pollinator Bed for **Wednesday, October 21st, at 3:00 PM** (volunteers should bring a soil knife). Emma will share the event on the Bee App, and will be shared with partner organizations.

Jane reported the Fly Fishing Festival at the Highland Center for the Arts is set for June 5–6, 2027 with GCC programming taking place on June 6th from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM.

Betsy contacted Spencer Hardy from the Vermont Center for Ecostudies regarding a presentation on pollinators. He expressed interest in speaking, ideally on a midweek evening.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, November 14th at 10:15am** at the *Greensboro Free Library*.

7.) 4:54pm- **Adjourn**