



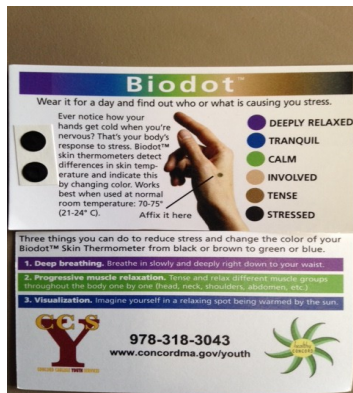
TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week of: October 26th 2015

Biodots Available

Biodots give you biological feedback about what's going on inside your body. The information, or feedback that it gives you, lets you know whether your efforts have been successful or not. Say you were trying to meditate as a way of lowering stress. At the end of the twenty minute meditation period, how would you know whether your meditation had actually worked to help you relax? If you were wearing a biodot, and it had turned from black to blue you'd know that the temperature just beneath the surface of your skin had increased and (by deduction) you would know that your blood flow had improved and that you had activated the relaxation response. That's how biodots help people to reduce stress, by giving you feedback on internal functions of the body that you can't detect in any other way.



WANT ONE? Cards are located at the Young Adult sections of Concord Public Library. They will also be available to CCHS students during monthly mindfulness lunch blocks. Want a stack for your youth organization? Contact Jennifer Clarke, Youth Services Coordinator, at jjclarke@concordma.gov or 978.318.3043

Trunk or Treat Was a Success!

The first annual Trunk or Treat took place on Saturday October 24th at the municipal lot on Keyes road. There were 29 families signed up to decorate their trunks and pass out candy. The night was crisp and a bit chilly but it didn't dampen the spirits of the participants. Cars began showing up at 5:00pm. Officer Scott also attended and used his police siren to begin the event at 5:30pm. Children and adults went from trunk to trunk enjoying the decorations and collecting the treats. Approximately 4 cars displayed the teal pumpkin posters, announcing that those cars would be passing out allergy safe items. There were about 5 families that did not decorate a car but did come to trick or treat.

Recreation gave out trick or treat bags and pencils with Halloween erasers and our name and number on them. The event was definitely a success and will be an asset to keep in future years.

Board/Committee Vacancies

Ever consider becoming a part of a board/commission/committee in your local government? The Town is looking for residents to fill positions on a variety of boards/commissions/committees.

If interested, please call (978) 318-3000, or find info online: www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA_BOS/vacancies

Finance News

Contact: (978) 318-3090

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award—The Town of Concord is proud to announce it is the recipient of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for Fiscal Year 2016. This award was based on the presentation of both the Town Manager's Proposed Budget for FY2016, and the Town Manager's Proposed Enterprise Budgets for FY2016.

Second Quarter Property Tax Bills Due November 2—Fiscal Year 2016 second quarter preliminary taxes are due in the Collector's Office no later than Monday, November 2, 2015. The Town House business hours are Monday through Friday 8:30AM to 4:30PM. The Town provides for online payments that credit your account as soon as you successfully submit your payment. The taxpayer has the choice of either paying electronically from a checking account or by credit card. While there is no charge to the customer for payments from a checking account, there is a fee charged by the credit card company when using MasterCard, VISA, or Discover. The applicable credit card fee is displayed on the payment screen for the customer to approve before finalizing the payment transaction.



HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

RECREATION • COUNCIL ON AGING • COMMUNITY SERVICES • YOUTH SERVICES • VETERANS OUTREACH

Veterans' Services

Contact: 978-318-3038

The Office of Veterans' Services checked on two veterans who did not receive their Chapter 115 benefit checks. It appears the checks were "in the mail" and the veterans would receive their checks shortly. One of the two veterans requested assistance in paying medical bills that she received and help with her application for Mass Health Buy-In. The office assisted with both issues.

A senior citizen veteran who is no longer gainfully employed requested financial help via Chapter 115. The veteran has medical issues preventing him from continuing to work. The Veteran benefit has been applied for and provided to the veteran.

A West Concord senior citizen veteran was assisted with healthcare issues they had with the Department of Veterans Affairs. A second West Concord veteran was assisted with groceries via "Open Table."

Community Services

Contact: 978-318-3034

The Community Services Coordinator (CSC) received **35 phone calls, 45 emails and had 4 office/home visits**, all related to requests for assistance for things such as paying utility bills, finding temporary and permanent housing, housing /landlord issues, needing heating oil, finding disability resources, applying for Fuel Assistance, Food Stamps and Beacon Santa for holiday assistance, as well as needing food from the food pantry. Of the 84 contacts made to the CSC this past week, 7 of those were from residents who had never contacted the Community Services Coordinator in the past.

The CSC attended the 2015-2016 SMOC Fuel Assistance Program training in Framingham. The program season is officially open; anyone who qualifies, and is interested in applying for fuel assistance, please contact Aileen Buford, MSW for an application/information packet.

'OPEN TABLE' IS IN NEED OF DONATIONS especially non-perishable sources of protein, such as canned fish, ham, hash, chili, beef stew and spam. Donations are accepted at 105 Everett Street on Thursdays from 12-3pm. For further information please contact 978.369.2275.

Open Table offers a community supper in Concord on Thursdays at First Parish Church (20 Lexington Road) at 5:30pm and has pantry items available at this location from 4:30pm-6:30pm for anyone who is in need of food. No application required, everyone is welcome. For additional information call 978.369.2275 or visit the website at www.opentable.org.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

WILLIAM JAMES COLLEGE INTERFACE REFERRAL SERVICE (formerly Project Interface) – assists community members in Concord and Carlisle in finding mental health services for children, families and adults by helping to match location and insurance requirements, as well as personal preferences. Call the Helpline at 617-332-3666 ext. 1411, M-F 9am-5pm, or www.msppinterface.org

Concord Cares – an emergency oil disbursement program providing up to 75 gallons of emergency heating oil – only in crisis. To apply contact the Community Services Coordinator, Aileen Buford, MSW at 978-318-3034 or if over age 60 contact the Concord Council on Aging at 978.318.3020. After hours EMERGENCY NEED, contact the Fire Department at 978-318-4888 or the Police Department at 978-318-3400.



Department of Planning & Land Management (DPLM)

BUILDING INSPECTION • PLANNING • NATURAL RESOURCES • BOARD OF HEALTH • ZONING

Planning Division

Contact: (978) 318-3290

Comprehensive Plan Kick-off Event scheduled for Tuesday, October 27th: The Kick-off Event for the next Comprehensive Plan is an open public meeting that will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. The event is a celebration of the actions that have been completed from the 2005 plan, discussion of the actions remaining to be done and an introduction of the comprehensive plan standards framework. Come join the conversation about Concord's next Comprehensive Plan!

Community Preservation Committee meeting of October 22nd: The Committee met with Matthew Genzlinger, pastor of the New Church in West Concord, who explained the project to restore the front steps of the historic church; and Jerry Wedge, executive director of the Emerson Umbrella, to learn more about the project to restore the original windows on the building. The Committee has also scheduled an extra meeting on November 17 to review the Concord Housing Development Corporation's applications for the Junction Village project and the Affordable Housing Buy-Down program.

Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing of October 22nd: The Board heard and granted approval for three new applications as follows: a Special Permit to reconstruct, extend, alter, or change a non-conforming structure at 17 Seymour Street for new deck (A. Aronie, applicant); a Special Permit for relief from parking requirements of 9 spaces to increase seating capacity to 28 seats at Salt-box Kitchen/84 Commonwealth Avenue (B. Elliott, applicant); and a Sign Variance for relief from total signage area and amount of principle signs allowed at Millbrook Tarry/91-97 Lowell Road (Millbrook Tarry Condominium Association Inc., applicant).

West Concord Village Tour: The Central Mass. Regional Planning Agency asked Director Marcia Rasmussen to conduct a tour of West Concord Village as part of an educational opportunity about Village Zoning efforts in the region. Approximately 12 planners participated in the tour, which took place on October 23rd.

Natural Resources

Contact: (978) 318-3285

Protecting Investment in Wildlife Diversity: Natural Resources Director Delia Kaye was a panelist at a Division of Fisheries and Wildlife conference centered around the new grant program offered by the State to manage and preserve conservation and habitat acquisitions for public and private entities. The panel discussion was on funding opportunities for the public and private sector; Ms. Kaye's focus was on the use of Community Preservation Act funds for habitat restoration projects such as the ongoing invasive species control program at Old Calf pasture.

EPA Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program Workgroup: Assistant Natural Resources Director Lori Capone attended a meeting of a relatively new regional workgroup developed through EPA to evaluate and monitor cyanobacteria outbreaks in New England. This group has developed tool kits and trains volunteers to conduct cyanobacteria monitoring throughout New England in an effort to develop a database to identify trends and develop better evaluation systems in an effort to predict the likelihood of outbreaks before they occur. This workgroup has developed a project called CyanoScope through the iNaturalist app where citizens can post information on algae blooms as they occur.

Natural Resources Commission meeting of October 21st: The following matters were heard: an Amendment Request to expand a yard at 144 Park Lane; an Amendment Request for 987 Lowell Road to construct a stone wall; a Notice of Intent (NOI) to reconstruct a retaining wall on the Sudbury River at 297 Heath's Bridge Road; an NOI to construct a new single family house at 44A Fitchburg Turnpike Road; and the demolition and reconstruction of a single family house at 317 Old Bedford Road. New applications received this week for the November 4th NRC meeting include: an NOI for 129 Everett Street to construct a garage and other landscape amenities; a Request for Determination of Applicability to enclose a deck; and an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation at 15B Monument Farm Road.

Health Division

Contact: (978) 318-3275

Over the past week, the Health Division reviewed septic system permitting, food service checks, and annual barn inspections as part of their weekly duties.

Massachusetts Health Officers Association Annual Conference: Dir. Susan Rask and Asst. Dir. Stan Sosnicki attended the MHOA conference on Oct. 21-22. The conference provided valuable regulatory and programmatic updates from Mass. Dept. of Public Health and MA Dept. of Environmental Protection, and provided Continuing Education credits needed by staff to maintain professional licensure.