

Kingston Conservation Commission

Dec. 4, 2014

Called to order: 7pm

In attendance: Evy Nathan, Amanda Moulaison, Dave Smith, Jeff Sluder, Bruce Cliff, Paul Blais,

Guests: Walt Roy, Ken Twombly, Jeff Sands

Secretary's Report: Minutes accepted without correction

Treasurer's Report: Over budget on supplies, dues, and professional service, but there is extra in the public education line. We were asked by the town to consolidate our three accounts down to one. Evy spoke to Cindy about this, who suggested that we do not consolidate. Motion to keep our accounts as they are and not consolidate was accepted.

Correspondence:

1. Phil Auger sent the commission an email regarding off-roaders on his property. He set up trail cams and informed the police of the activity. Our jurisdiction in this type of situation was discussed.
2. Rockingham Planning Commission sent us county-wide plans for the coming year with a letter asking that we read and submit comments.

Planning Board Plans for Review:

1. Berkshire Dominion resubmitted plans for the new Pond View. Commission left comments noting that the planned snow storage area was very close to a runoff area that led to Country Pond in Newton, which would create a point source pollution situation.
2. Jeff Sands came to the meeting with an expedited application for a dock in Kingston Lake. The town questioned their DES permit which was several decades old. Abutter Bob Ducharme sent email with a video showing Sands using a tractor to dredge a significant amount of his shoreline. A motion to sign the permit was passed, seeing as it is not our job to police his tractor use.

Old & Ongoing Business:

1. Evy had a meeting with Emily Lord of the NHACC. Kingston was chosen as one of three towns that have innovative conservation commissions. An article about our commission will appear in the SPNHS (forest society) publication soon.
2. A forest map was delivered to the KPD. Several emergencies were called in during 2014 involving the town forests, but police didn't know where several of them were. This will resolve that issue.
3. Reviewed 2014 accomplishments- and there were a lot. A few of the highlights were posting various trail signs, including one for Dave Ingalls and one for the Tire Dump, the high school projects in Frye Forest, several cleanup projects, and the NHACC presentations.

4. The Manuel Property LCIP walk still needs to be done. Bruce offered to do it this coming weekend, possibly joined by Dave Smith.

New Business:

1. Welcome new member Dave Smith!
2. Migration corridors and climate change has officially been decided as the theme for the 2015 sophomore biology project.
3. Thoughts on capital improvement ideas... Spoke about the tire dump, although this may not meet the "capital improvement" parameters.
4. A goal for 2015 is rewriting the wetlands/shorelands protection brochures. We have several that were made many years ago and are now outdated, but they are a great resource for property owners.
5. We were invited to help out with the FOKOS group, however, they only meet about once a year and are usually looking for another group to match a donation in order to purchase a piece of land.
6. Goal for 2015: mapping our trails.

Other:

1. SELT has built bridges in the Tucker-French property. Ernie, Walt, and Phil Auger are making headway on the final bridge.

Adjourned at 8:40

Next meeting: Jan. 8th