

Kingston Conservation Commission

Minutes - April 4, 2013

Attending: Evy Nathan, Bruce Cliff, Paul Blais, Cory Evans, Mike Sallade, Carol Croteau, Bill Waters
Guests: Walt Roy, Alicia Geilen, Paul Dearborn

Minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's report:

The check for the appraisal of the newly acquired forest parcels has been cashed, and so the total of forest and money market funds now stand at: \$8,421.44
Checking account: \$3,310.90

*Guest, Alicia Geilen presented wetlands permit application for a seasonal dock at her property on 37 Circuit Drive, for expedited review.

The Commission reviewed the plan and had no issues with it. Carol Croteau moved that we accept and sign the permit for Alicia, Bruce Cliff seconded. The motion was carried.

Correspondence:

Christmas card from Nature Conservancy found hidden in the cubby
DES letter re: the proposed Torromeo conservation easement, thanking Torromeo for donating the land.
An email from Brian Hart explained SELT's reasons for not accepting the easement, that Torromeo had not complied with state wetlands pollution enforcement in the past, and that they would not deal with him as owner.

There were several emails from Eric Wade, owner of lot 26 tax map 26, asking \$17,000 for the property. This was agreed an unreasonable amount, and we will not seek ways to purchase the lot at this time.

New Business:

1. No plans from the Planning board.
2. Discussion of having a forester complete a management plan for the Depot Road Town Forest was briefly discussed, but a motion was made to table any further discussion until Dave Ingalls can be present. Carol C. voted that we table the issue, Bruce C. seconded. The motion to table was carried.
3. Possible cross-committee cookout in conjunction with the Powwow clean up day was briefly discussed. Powwow Clean up day is to be held on June 1 as a joint venture between the KCC and PPC. Evy N. will attend the upcoming PPC meeting on April 17th and bring up the possible cookout.
4. Evy N. announced that Electra Allesio of Carriage Town News has agreed to publish a conservation column once a month. The first column will be in the paper on the week of Earth Day this month.
5. Carol Croteau, who has served her three-year term, will remain on as an alternate of the KCC. Cory Evans will take her place on the board as a full member. Selectmen have been notified of the change.

Old and Ongoing Business:

1. Evy recounted a phone discussion with Dennis Quintal concerning the wetlands permit presented last month for a wetlands crossing to the undeveloped lot at 47 Rte. 125. Dennis explained the planning board's reasoning for not using existing driveways for access to the property behind Well Kept Secret Antiques. He also said that NH Heritage Bureau had determined that no rare plant or animal communities would be affected by the crossing, and had approved the plan. Dennis said every effort was made in designing the road to impact the wetlands as little as possible.

Evy explained briefly what the role of the KCC is with wetlands permits – namely to inform the state (DES) if we are aware of issues not been addressed in the preparation of the permit.

2. Evy handed out posters for the Vernal Pool Workshop we are co-sponsoring with ERSILAC, to be held at Valley Lane town forest on April 27. Members were asked to distribute the posters. Cory E. suggested a possible link to the Y Facebook page.

3. The Arbor Day birch tree planting at Bakie School will take place at the end of this month, and Evy will order stickers for the class commemorating the event. It was voted to pay for the stickers with line-item supply money.

4. Mike Sallade has agreed to be the KCC's representative to Southeast Watershed Alliance, with Evy as alternate.

5. The cost of posters for the upcoming photo contest was discussed, but Cory Evans offered to design the poster on his computer and sending the file to Staples to print, which would save quite a bit of money.

6. Evy explained about the refusal of NHC GF to approve our grant for the HS watershed/raingarden project. The reasons cited by NHC GF were primarily that they rarely support for projects on private property. There was a discussion of this, and of what to do going forward. Rich St. Hilare has offered gravel, sand and soils. Evy purchased 55 native shrub seedlings from the NH State Nursery in Boscowan, so that we will have something to plant. Sarah Sallade emailed that the students may be able to do some fundraising for flowers. A man with a small backhoe is known, who often helps with HS projects. Carol C. voted to reimburse Evy for the \$55 for plants, from the supplies line item. Mike S. seconded, the vote was carried.

****Cory Evans brought up the idea of a possible future warrant article for a one-time property tax abatement for waterfront property owners who are in, or come into compliance with the Wetland and Shoreland Protection Act, as an incentive toward clean lakes and ponds. This was deemed an excellent idea worthy of serious future follow up.**

7. The documentation of LCHIP properties was raised, as Carol was 'leaving' the committee, but she graciously offered to continue on with this project. Cory E. has an extra hand-held GPS that that we may use.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

The next meeting will be held on May 9