

## **Kingston Conservation Commission**

### **Minutes:**

**January 7, 2016**

Call to order- 7pm

**Attending:** Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Jeff Sluder, Bob Smith, Ken Twombly, Carol Croteau,

**Guests:** Walt Roy

**Minutes from Dec. were approved.**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- There will be money enough in the roll-over from the budget to pay for proposed Frye Forest gates.
- *Bob Smith was called to leave the meeting for work--- He declared his "Yes" votes for the Bobcat bill and Bruce Andersen's memorial.*
- Members voted to help defray the cost of the Bruce Anderson Memorial, as requested by Warren Whitcomb. \$200 from our checking account will be sent to Mr. Whitcomb towards his costs.

### **Correspondence**

- **Email from Stoddard Conservation Commission re: Bobcat Hunting in NH**  
NH Fish and Game voted to open a hunting season for Bobcats in NH.  
In correspondence with friends at F&G, it appears that many biologists and personnel at F&G are in disagreement with the decision. The Commissioners of F&G are civilians appointed by the governor, and can, or may not accept the advice of biologists. We have been asked to join in signing the petition of the Stoddard Conservation Commission against opening a bobcat season. There was little discussion, as all members present were 100% in accord with signing as a commission. Members present voted 6-0 to sign.  
There will be a hearing on February 1 in Concord. Several CC members plan to attend.

### **DOT Monitoring Report**

- We received a report for the Sullivan Wetland Mitigation site (north of Bayberry Pond). The final decision, after a three-year monitoring period, was that the plantings were unsuccessful. A walk of the site with DOT was suggested for spring.

### **South East Land Trust**

- Letter from Danielle Christopher thanking us for the site walk at Valley Lane, and complimenting the good condition of the forest.

### **Cutting of trees on Powwow Pond shoreline**

- The CC has received verbal comments and 2 emails complaining about the noise of the cut, (Smith property) and questioning the proximity to the shoreline. Evy checked with state forester, John Dodge, who found the cut to be in compliance with the management plan.

## Troop 93

- Troop 93 thanked us by email for the pizza party.

## RSA 482-A :11

- *Carol Croteau gave what information she could find about this statute, which gives CCs the right to place an administrative hold on wetlands dredge & fill permit applications. We have been advised that that placing such a hold should be a tool used carefully and infrequently. Conservation commissions are the only entity able to place a dredge and fill on a 40-day hold, allowing time for review. Commissions must hire and pay experts, and commissioners may view the property only before work is done.*

## PB and DES

- The PB approved the Eversource buffer encroachment.
- ECSI Hazmat  
The town did not approve any storage of asbestos at Environmental Compliance Specialists on Rte 125, as it is within the aquifer protection zone. Town approval pre-empts state approval, and so the PB has requested that the selectmen send a C&D to ECSI.
- **Diamond Oaks Maintenance Building:** no comment
- **Wetlands violations 85 North Road:** We are advised that DES turned over this case to NH Attorney General's office.

## Old and ongoing Business:

- **Dorre Forest trail walk:** The gates Torromeo erected cut off the class 6 road to Dorre TF, which is technically illegal. We were told that a "blind eye" is often turned on these gates, as they hinder ATV damage and keep the forests cleaner. However, it was argued by CC members that someone's ATV or jeep is using the road (tracks were seen), and that "no trespassing" signs were placed on the Town Forest side of the road. •We agreed that these must be removed. (Action item)
- **Sophomore 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Project**
  - Liz Richardson is our liaison teacher for the sophomore team. Students will be creating a management plan for the Rte 107 Town Forest. Patrick and Michael of Seekamp Environmental, Alicia Geilen, wetland scientist, Fred Borman, county forester, and Emma Tutein (Carcagno), of Stewardship Network have agreed to help with the project.
  - On the 16<sup>th</sup> of February at the Kingston Community library, the American Chestnut Society will be presenting a program about their attempts to bring back the American chestnut tree to NH.  
*The CC will sponsor the event and Evy and Marghi will provide refreshments.*

- All LCIP reports were sent to Concord in December. *Thanks to CC members who prepared reports!*

**Delegation of some of our goals for 2016!**

- *Marghi: Frye cut, library conservation shelf.*
- *Ken: Trail cam maintenance at Frye TF, trail passport program for youth.*
- *Bob: Find or hire an intern or trail designer to assess the needs for trail improvement at Frye TF.*
- *Jeff: Hire surveyor for LCIP properties, place new LCIP signage.*
- *Andrea: Wetlands and shoreland protection info brochure.*
- *Evy: SRHS project, apply for grant for trail work.*

Evy gave a brief synopsis of her NHACC course on roads and road law.

Walt Roy gave an update on SELT projects in the works.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Next meeting will be on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>