

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

June 11, 2015

Meeting called to order: 7pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Ken Twombly, Godfrey Sluder, Bob Smith, Sophie Smith, Marghi Bean Walt Roy, guest, Ernie Landry, presenter / guest

May minutes

accepted w/o edits

Treasurer's Report:

Evy brought receipts for seeds for the SRHS ecology project, and shrubs purchased at the NH Nursery

Marghi Bean was reimbursed from the town of Kingston (mileage and meals line) from the trip to Concord.

Ken purchased bug repellent for KCC for the high school and other projects - approximately \$24.00. He will bring a receipt.

Ernie Landy – possible Back Road acquisition:

Evy was notified by Phil Auger that there is a piece of property on Back Road, owned by Bob & Rita Fairbrother. They would like to sell it to the town. This is a good piece of land that gives access to the town forest in that area. Discussion about the selling price and about funds that are available for Conservation to buy property. Discussion of access to these funds and possible warrant articles needed. There is \$36,000 in the land conservation fund. Rick Russman has offered to help KCC with handling this acquisition. The first step: Evy & Rick should meet with the Fairbrothers, and then get an appraisal if appropriate.

The SELT Tucker-French property will be officially opened on July 25 at 9 am

There will be an inaugural 'Trail-fest' on Aug. 29th with races on the trails.

Correspondence:

Thank you letter from Danielle Christopher (Trail monitor for SELT) for this year's site walk with Evy at the RTE.107 town forest.

Capital Improvement request from the town is in for 2015. KCC does not foresee requesting CI money.

Signs and Trails

Jeff Sluder reported that turtle signs have been placed on North Rd. and Green Road with the help of Kevin Martin of the KHD.

One of the town forest signs has already been stolen from Valley Lane, and the trail head sign at Fry Road was smashed and broken. Placing our trail cam at this site would help to ID vandals. We will have stronger sign posts made, and move the sign to a different location, off road. Mike Dostie recovered the damaged sign. Thank you, Mike.

*The Frye Forest Knotweed is alive and well and needs **re-treatment**. The invasive bittersweet in the same area seems to have been materially diminished by last year's project.

The Commission needs help at Frye. May be too much for us or for boy scouts to handle. Evy suggested that the Student Conservation Corp. might be hired.

Mike Dostie has offered to help make the raised bed under the sign for Dave's Memorial Garden at Valley Lane.

Trail Cam: The camera was sent to Ken, but the cage needed to be returned, as it did not fit the camera.

Discussion of positioning of the Trail Cam.

Once the trail sign is in place, the camera will be necessary. Evy has filed a police report about the vandalism at Frye.

Signs at Ann Hannigan: Jeff reports that the trail into the Ann Hannigan wildlife Sanctuary is closed down by 'crown of thorns' vines, but there is a sign. We want this area to remain inaccessible. The only access is via Powwow River.

Placement of additional signs to be considered.

Planning Board plans for review:

Misery Hill map (36 Main St.). We did not find changes.

Intents to cut:

Philip Kerkhoff: 15 acres on Exeter Rd.

New Business:

We are sorry to learn that Bruce Cliff has resigned from the Commission, due to work conflicts. He will be missed. Commission members suggested that we order a plaque thanking Bruce for years of service.

Andrea Kenter has agreed to become a full member to fill Bruce's spot.

Watershed assistance grants are available. Working on some of the culverts in need of replacement should be considered.

The High School Ecology project concludes Wed., next week (June 17). More shovels are needed. 4 Commission members will help chaperone: Ken Twombly, Marghi Bean, Jeff Sluder and Evy Nathan

Pollinator habitat might be established on the Bean property after the invasives are dealt with.

Sophie Smith has agreed to be our new youth member! Welcome aboard, Sophie!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm

Next meeting will be July 9th

