

Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

2/6/2020

Meeting called to order 6:46 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Bob Smith, Linda Foss, John Ricker, Ken Twombly, Richard Wilson (Select Board ex officio)

Excused absence: Greg Senko, Elizabeth Mello, Melissa Butler

Guests: Walt Roy

Russell Chute & Paul Dearborn (Powwow Pond Council)

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as written. Motion by Ken, seconded by Marghi, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

John reported that the Conservation Fund current balance is \$10,734.02. Prior to each meeting, John will email Cindy Kenerson to request a monthly budget report.

Marghi made a motion to allow Evy to spend up to \$50.00 of our line item funds in 2020 without commission pre-approval. This motion should be renewed annually. Motion seconded by Bob, all in favor.

Correspondence:

Easement monitoring reports: Evy received easement monitoring reports for the Kemp farm on Exeter Road and Coombs farm. Both properties were found to be compliant with the conservation easements at this time.

NHACC Survey: Evy read survey questions sent by email and recorded answers with input from the commissioners present at the meeting.

Powwow Pond Council:

Russell Chute presented the grant award letter from NH DES for milfoil remediation in Powwow Pond. The total cost of the project is \$43,405, with grant award is \$17,362. The local cost of the project is \$26,043. This project has been included in the 2020 town budget and will move forward if the budget is approved at town meeting in March. The plan is to use a combination of manual removal by DASH divers (2%) and ProcettaCOR EC aquatic herbicide treatment (98%), to be applied by SOLitude Lake Management. SOLitude is the only contractor certified in New Hampshire to apply the herbicide.

As a next step SOLitude will apply for a permit and notify abutters. It was suggested that a notice about the herbicide treatment be posted on the Kingston Facebook page to alert residents,

and possibly to post signs at the time of treatment to ensure that the public is adequately informed. Russell noted that the herbicide can be applied with no recreational, fishing or drinking water restrictions, and the treatment is expected to prevent milfoil for 3 seasons.

New Business:

Earth Day Bird Walk: Evy has organized a bird walk on Saturday, May 2 to be led by Scott Heron.

Earth Day Roadside Cleanup: The Conservation Commission has volunteered to clean up North Road on Saturday, April 25.

BioBlitz: The Commission will postpone the BioBlitz until 2021. The Commission has many other ongoing projects that are consuming the time and resources necessary to plan a BioBlitz. By postponing until next year, the BioBlitz can be better planned and could possibly be incorporated in the school curriculum to make it a more meaningful experience for students. It could also possibly be tied into next year's sophomore class project.

High School Sophomore Pollinator Project: Meghan Petruzzi has submitted the grant application and is waiting for a response. No response from her yet about holding a sophomore team meeting.

Saving Special Places (April 4): Evy, Marghi, Melissa, Elizabeth and Ken plan to attend - so far.

Pollinator Pathways Subcommittee:

Evy made a motion to create a Pollinator Pathways Subcommittee. Motion seconded by Ken, all in favor. Appointed subcommittee members are: Evy, Marghi, Elizabeth, and Leslie Randlett.

The Pollinator Pathways project continues to grow, with 8 conservation commissions having joined the project and two others ready to join.

Steve Roxburgh, new owner of the Bakie Farm, has committed to planting three sections of farmland with pollinator plants.

Events:

*Tuesday, February 11, Swasey Gym (Primary Day): Marghi will set up a display table.

*Saturday, February 8, Town Hall (Deliberative Session): Marghi will try to have information available at the door.

*Thursday, February 20, 7pm Rye Junior High School: Educational talk by Molly Janicki, certified horticulturalist

*Wednesday, March 8, 7pm, Newton Town Hall: Pollinator Conversations – What Works in Your Garden?

*Marghi and Evy are scheduled for a radio program in June.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

* Smallpox Road (Dan Parks): Richard informed the Commission that Mr. Parks has requested a bond reduction for his proposed trout pond project, as he wishes to do the project himself. No comment.

* 1 Library Lane: The owners submitted a plan to expand the parking lot and add an infiltration basin at the back of the property. No comment.

* 53 Marshall Road (Falzone): The owners have proposed a 7-lot subdivision. The current plan is for lots situated side-by-side, rather than the previous plan for clustered housing with shared open space. Since there is no house placement on the plan the Commission has no comment at this time; however, it was noted that most of the land in lot 7-1 falls within the wetland buffer.

* Diamond Oaks: Plans were submitted and reviewed for a proposed mechanical room, a septic system, and adding a dormer to the clubhouse. No comment.

* Northeast Automation, LLC 45 Main St.: The owner is proposing to change the current use of the property from auto salvage to office and storage space. No comment.

Trails Subcommittee:

The Acorn Town Forest hike is postponed until October so the Trails Subcommittee can have the summer to build and install bog bridges needed to make the trails passable.

The Trails Committee plans to build and place several Leopold benches in the Town Forests.

Geof Harris, one of the directors at Camp Lincoln, has expressed interest in joining the Trails Subcommittee. Evy will send his contact info to Bob.

The Boy Scouts of troops 91 and 93 removed half of the pallets from Frye Town Forest using sleds. They will remove the rest at a future date. Thank you scouts!

Ken spoke to NH Fish and Game about the North Kingston Town Forest deer stand. They said that since the deer stand was not labeled with the owner's name they would install a game camera to try to determine who is using it.

Old Business:

Action Item Evy will contact Ron Klemarczyk regarding Forest Management Plans for Acorn and West Kingston Town Forests.

Action item: Tires still need to be removed from the conservation wetland abutting Ken's Auto Salvage. Bob will contact Ken's.

Frye incursion (Gelina): Rick Russman and Ernie Landry confirmed that there is a right of way to the Frye property from Ram's Way. Efforts will be made in the spring to identify where it is.

Other:

Richard Wilson mentioned that the white goods and tire collection bin at John's Auto is being used for everything but, and the BOS plan to place a sign and install security cameras.

Linda Foss noted that the Newton Select Board voted 4-0 to recommend Country Pond Lake Association's warrant article to help fund the Lake Host program at their town boat ramp.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm

Next meeting Thursday, March 5, 6:45 pm at the library

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary