

## Minutes

### Kingston Conservation Commission

8/6/2020

Meeting called to order at 6:50 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Greg Senko, Linda Foss, Elizabeth Mello, Geof Harris, Donald Briggs (Select Board ex officio)

Excused absence: Bob Smith, Ken Twombly, Melissa Butler,

Guests: Jeff Sluder, Shaw Tilton, Walt Roy

#### **Secretary's Report:**

Minutes from the last meeting on July 16 were accepted as written. Motion by Greg, seconded by Elizabeth, all in favor.

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

Evy is acting as interim Treasurer pending Shaw's appointment to the Conservation Commission. She wrote a check to Greg for \$129.31 to reimburse the cost of materials for benches.

#### **Correspondence:**

VLAP report for Country Pond dated July 28.

#### **Planning Board, DES, OEP:**

\*34 Rte. 125 Fieldstone Industrial Condos: This is a request for expedited Planning Board approval which involves reducing an existing wetland buffer from 75' to 25'. Evy has requested a copy of the original plans from 2014/15 to determine the reasoning behind the original buffer size. She noted that including the wetland's function as wildlife habitat in the criteria would increase the minimum buffer requirement to 45'.

Chief Briggs noted that DOT should take this new development into consideration when planning the future Route 125 expansion. He suggested that the Planning Board contact DOT to notify them of the development, as any additional runoff from impervious surfaces in the industrial park would need to be accommodated in DOT's plans for remediating runoff.

\*Diamond Oaks veteran's condos: No comment as no wetlands are involved.

\*Smallpox Road Map R19 Lot 32 (Dan Parks): Mr. Parks has submitted a new plan by Fuss & O'Neill for a larger pond. This project will include the excavation of 125,560 cubic yards of gravel and the Conservation Commission is concerned that the dewatering process will produce significant runoff from the excavation site into adjacent wetlands.

Evy will contact Andrea Kenter, Senior Hydrogeologist with GeoInsight, and ask her to review the plan and provide an opinion on the impact that it will have on nearby wetlands. The Conservation Commission also requests a site walk to review the proposed boundaries for the project.

\*34 Church St.: Proposed building situated behind the commercial building which houses Fremont Pizzeria and the thrift shop. No comment as no wetlands are involved.

\*82A Main St., U6 Lot 46 (O'Rourke): Plan by Stoney Ridge Environmental Services to replace a 73' retaining wall on Great Pond. The plan does not declare that the proposed wall is the same dimensions as the old wall, but it appears from the attached photos that they are similar in size. The plan shows the wall reaching the water line. The plan should note that the work will be done in the dry as required by the Permit-by-Notification.

\*13 Shirley Lane, Map U6 Lot 40 (Chaplin): Plan by Lane Berry Surveying & Engineering to rebuild a retaining wall on Great Pond. The plan does not declare that the proposed wall is the same dimensions as the old wall, but it appears from the attached photos that they are similar in size. It appears that this retaining wall is in contact with water making it impossible to perform the work under current conditions. This project will need to be done following the scheduled draw-down of Great Pond in the fall. The plan should note that the work will be done in the dry as required by the Permit-by-Notification.

### **Pollinator Pathways Subcommittee:**

Pollinator Pathways has several events planned in the coming weeks:

A Garden Walk at the Kingston Community Library on Wednesday, August 12

A wildflower walk in Fremont the third week of August and another at Magnusson's property during the first week of September.

Another seed exchange will be scheduled in the fall.

Evy and Marghi will do their radio interview with NH Public Radio via Zoom.

Evy and Marghi have been invited to hold a one-hour Pollinator Pathways workshop for the NHACC Annual Meeting & Conference, which will be virtual this year.

### **Trails Subcommittee:**

Blaze re-painting will be scheduled in the fall when the weather is cooler.

#### **West Kingston Town Forest**

Trail marking is scheduled for Saturday August 8. Since the gate has been installed any ATV incursions are now originating from the other side of the property.

#### **Acorn Town Forest**

The Red trail will be re-routed away from the abutting shooting range and warning signs will be put up at each end of the trail.

Bridge incursion: The Trails Subcommittee will compare the owner's lot information with the lot line information in SELT's conservation easement. Greg was unable to find the property corner markers and will find someone to try with a metal detector. Chief Briggs has volunteered visit with the owners to discuss the situation when all available documentation has been reviewed.

#### **Valley Lane Town Forest**

The benches have been installed and Melissa is working on trails signs to note distances to the trailhead.

#### **North Kingston Town Forest**

Removal of the deer blind is pending submission of volunteer forms to the insurance company and safety training.

### Frye Town Forest

Pallet and appliance removal is pending submission of volunteer forms to the insurance company and safety training. Chief Briggs suggested using a locksmith to obtain the similarly keyed locks for all town forest gates.

### Sargent Property

Evy reported that the Nature Conservancy steward has walked the Sargent property and had discovered targets on trees near the trails plus recent ATV incursions.

### **CPLA Update:**

Greg attended a watershed management plan team meeting. They have created an initial list of suggested sites for runoff mitigation, which will be reviewed and included in the expanded report. The team would like to expand water sampling to understand which tributaries are contributing the most phosphorus to Country Pond.

### **SELT Update:**

Walt reported that there is limited funding for additional bridges since donations are down due to the pandemic; however, all other trail maintenance projects are ongoing.

### **Old Business/Action Items:**

Projects to be completed:

- Briggs property clean-up
- Frye incursion (Gelina): access to south side of Frye
- Kingston access to Country Pond: revisit Murphy (Elizabeth)
- Re-do tree/shrub signs at Valley Lane
- North Kingston Town Forest deer stand – Trails Committee
- Beavers behind dog park: proposal for beaver deceivers to BOS when we can meet in town hall again

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Next meeting Thursday, September 10, 6:45pm, town hall

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda Foss, Secretary*