

Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

1/7/2021

Meeting called to order at 6:41 pm via Zoom

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Shaw Tilton, Bob Smith, Greg Senko, Elizabeth Mello, Geof Harris, Melissa Butler, Donald Briggs (Select Board ex officio)

Guests: Walt Roy, Jeff Sluder

Secretary's Report:

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

Treasurer's Report:

The Town transferred the amount of \$16,156.85 to the Conservation Fund, comprising \$2,156.85 in 2020 unused funds and a \$14,000.00 balance for milfoil remediation. In 2021, the first \$14,000.00 of milfoil remediation will be paid from the Conservation Fund. If additional funds are needed, then an additional \$5,000.00 will be made available by the Town.

Current bank account balances:

Conservation Fund: \$26,604.88

Forest Fund: \$5,230.13

ATV training receipts: Greg and Geof each submitted receipts for \$24.95 and will be reimbursed directly by the Town.

Correspondence:

SELT Newsletter

Nature Conservancy Christmas card

SELT monitoring report for Coombs farm, Little River Road

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

- 16 Church St., Map U10 Lot 17, Northland Forest Products/Abenaki Timber. Proposed office condominiums adjacent to Greenwood Pond. Project falls within the bounds of the

Historic District, Town shoreland and Aquifer zones. Impervious surface exceeds 20%. It is not clear from the plans where the buildings are to be situated. Conservation will need more detailed information on building size and proposed site before providing comments.

- 266 Route 125 (Amazon warehouse). There is a Planning Board meeting scheduled for January 19 to discuss the Conditional Use permit for this project.

Pollinator Pathways Subcommittee:

- Pollinator Pathways will be planning three spring events.
- Received an email from Claremont requesting advice on starting a Pollinator Pathways program.
- Atkinson and Kensington are planning seed distribution events.

Forest Management Plans:

Evy will submit the finalized plans to the Select Board and Chief Briggs will request their approval.

Trails Subcommittee:

Safety Training. Greg, Geof and Brad have taken the ATV safety course. Greg will try the \$25 chainsaw safety training course to determine if it should be recommended to others.

Game Cameras. Trails requested approval to purchase two additional game cameras to be used at Acorn, Frye, and possibly the Sargent property to discourage incursions and identify ATV users. Chief Briggs will find out if the Police Department has game cameras that can be borrowed.

Trail Maps. Trails obtained a quote from RAM Printing for kiosk display trail maps. Other quotes will be solicited, including one from Neatline.

Kiosks. Trails plans to build kiosks for Acorn, Frye and possibly Sargent in 2021. Walt will create the plans. Timberland will be contacted to find out if they still provide volunteer services. Chief Briggs will contact Northland Forest Products regarding a possible donation of kiln dried lumber.

Trail Walk. Trails requested recommendations for a trail walk leader. Several members recommended retired Rockingham County forester Fred Borman.

Valley Lane Town Forest. Trails will plan to perform bridge repairs in the spring,

Frye Town Forest. The remaining pallets have been removed.

ET's Landing/Sargent. Greg spoke with Krista Hemboldt of the Nature Conservancy regarding development of trails and a parking area. She indicated that the Nature Conservancy would be open to a proposal for a parking area at the Sargent Road entrance to the property. She would

also consider a proposal for a trail spur to provide viewing of the Atlantic White Cedar swamp for educational purposes. It was noted that this property has had numerous ATV and target shooting incursions, and that developing walking trails to encourage public access could help to deter illegal activity.

LCIP Monitoring:

The Bake property incursion letter was sent to the abutter, who agreed to promptly remove the scrap wood.

Greg will plan a meeting with Chief Briggs and Rich St. Hilaire to discuss Manuel right of way issues.

New Business:

Bresnahan Storage Lighting. Several residents of King's Landing (Monarch Way) have complained that the security lighting at the storage facility is too bright. There was a prior agreement that Bresnahan would dim lighting in the spring so that amphibians in the vernal pools would not be disturbed. Chief Briggs will discuss the lighting situation with Bresnahan.

Beaver Deceiver. Art Wolinsky is scheduled to present his beaver deceiver proposal to the Select Board on February 8. The beaver deceiver to be installed on town-owned property behind the dog park.

Annual Report. The Conservation Annual Report has been completed and submitted to the Town.

Old Business/Action Items:

Projects to be completed:

- Briggs property clean-up
- Frye incursion (Gelina): access to south side of Frye
- Re-do tree/shrub signs at Valley Lane

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm

Next meeting Thursday, February 4, 6:45pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary

Action items:

- *Comments to Planning Board on 16 Church St.: Conservation will need more information than provided on the plans. How many proposed buildings? How big are the proposed buildings? Where will they be situated on the lot?*
- *Ask Timberland about building kiosks*
- *Follow up with Chief Briggs on game camera availability*
- *Chief Briggs to speak with Bresnahan re: lighting complaints*
- *Provide Chief Briggs with Ram's Way address(es) to request a right of way into the inaccessible portion of Frye for monitoring purposes.*

Action items:

Don, Greg and Rich St. Hilaire to meeting regarding status of Lake and Green Roads.

Letter to abutter re: wood scrap on Bake property

Question for Rich St. Hilaire – who is authorized to replace surveyor poles with stakes (Manuel property)

Research Saddle Up deed to understand shoreland access rights, contact shoreland bureau

Thank you letter to Pawlowskis and Boy Scouts when they have completed cleanup

Ask Ron Klemarczyk who does paints the property boundary blazes.

Forest Mgt plan review:

Acorn Comments – error on history of Acorn, confirm that Area 5 will remain a natural area.

West Kingston comments - request to mention the 2 small parcels in the West Kingston report.