

Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

3/4/2021

Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm via Zoom

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

Guests: Walt Roy, Jeff Sluder

Secretary's Report:

February 4 meeting minutes: Greg advised that the paragraph regarding chainsaw safety training was incorrect and should be changed. Minutes were accepted as amended and will be posted with correction. Motion by Marghi, seconded by Bob, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Shaw presented the current bank account balances:

Conservation Fund: \$26,586.13

Forest Fund: \$5,231.40

Expenditures:

Year-to-date expenditures total \$127.48

Evy spent \$12.80 on stamps and \$9.00 on color copies and will submit receipts to Cindy Kenerson for reimbursement.

Correspondence:

New Hampshire Timberland Owners' Association newsletter. Evy will post on the town hall bulletin board.

Great Bay Discovery Center newsletter with an update on the Trails for People and Wildlife program.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

19 Page Road, Map R-22 Lot 32. Plan to convert a 2-family dwelling to a 3-family. Conservation has the following questions:

The plan shows a total of 12 parking spaces for 3 apartments. Are there plans to pave the parking area, and if so, what would be the total impervious surface area?

Why do the plans state that there are no wetlands on the property when the plans show a wetland mark?

17 Route 125 Detention Pond. Paul Coddington informed Evy that while NHDOT has not yet made a final decision on the detention pond, they will make every effort to avoid an incursion into the wetland area.

Trails Subcommittee:

The Trails Subcommittee did not meet in February. Greg asked members to report any trees that have fallen across trails since the last windstorm.

Frye Town Forest. Evy reported ATV tracks in the snow around the gate and asked what could be done to discourage ATV incursions. Chief Briggs suggested that Greg contact the Highway Department to ask about dropping one or more boulders to block the sides of the gate. It was also agreed that at least one game camera should be installed as a deterrent.

Evy said that the large hazard tree on the Blue trail should be removed this year. It was agreed that it will require special equipment and expertise to remove the tree safely. Greg will email a photo of the tree to the Highway department to ask their advice and obtain a cost estimate.

Pollinator Pathways Subcommittee:

The latest Pollinator Pathways newsletter has been released. The following events are either scheduled or being planned for spring:

- The Atkinson Conservation Commission will host a seed swap on April 10.
- A wildflower walk is planned for May 1.
- An invasives walk is planned for May 22.
- Pollinator Conversations will be resumed on Wednesday evenings.
- Several articles are to be published in the Carriage Towne News to raise awareness.
- A Pollinator Pathways table and plant sale during Kingston Days.
- A pollinator gardening talk by Patty Laughlin of Lorax Landscaping.
- Online or hybrid scavenger hunts for National Pollinator week (June 21 – 27).

The New Hampton Conservation Commission requested information on starting a PP program.

Evy proposed purchasing a Zoom Pro 1-year subscription for \$149.90 to be used for educational purposes. Pollinator Pathways plans to hold frequent Zoom programs this year and wants to ensure that these programs can be scheduled without conflict, as the town Zoom account cannot

accommodate simultaneous meetings. Chief Briggs will ask the Select Board if it is legal for Conservation to have its own Zoom account, and if it could also be used to host monthly Conservation meetings. This matter will be tabled pending Select Board approval.

New Business:

Checklist for Planning Board comments. Evy has reviewed the proposed checklist and will schedule a time to discuss her proposed changes with the subcommittee.

Old Business:

Manuel property access. Rich St. Hilaire is reviewing the information that Greg provided regarding the Lake and Green Road rights of way.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm

Next meeting Thursday, April 8, 6:45pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary