

Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
5/5/2022

Meeting called to order at 6:50 pm at the Kingston Community Library

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Geof Harris, Bob Smith, Elizabeth Mello, Greg Senko

Excused Absence: Shaw Tilton, Melissa Butler, Phil Coombs (Select Board Ex Officio)

Guests: Walt Roy

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the 4/7/2022 meeting were reviewed. MM&S to accept the minutes, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Shaw was absent but distributed current account balance information by email prior to the meeting. Evy provided a summary of the meeting she and Shaw had with the Select Board regarding management of the Forest Fund.

Conservation Fund: \$28,916.69

(Working Balance \$9,916.89, Aquatic Invasives Reserve \$19,000.00)

Forest Fund: \$ 17,239.61 (includes \$5,868.27 and \$6,132.83 from Acorn timber sale)

Operational Guidelines review and discussion:

Evy proposed several changes to the latest revision. MM&S to accept the operational guidelines with the proposed changes.

Correspondence:

- Call from Mr. Shaw regarding access to Map R5 Lot 5 via Dorre Rd. for a timber cut
- Kingston Lake Association newsletter
- Thank you card from Chief Briggs
- NH LAKES Congress announcement
- Town Forest anniversary card from SELT
- Evy sent thank you cards to Bob Lee and Ron Klemarczyk for their work in the Acorn timber harvest

Planning Board, DES, OEP, ZBA:

There were no plans to review at the time of the meeting.

Trails Committee:

- Valley Lane: A work session was held to raise and support the Quinlan bridge. Another session is planned to raise and support the bridge at the far end of the Red trail. Geof reported that plastic routed signs are a better alternative to wood and has purchased some material for a sample. Greg requested a maximum of \$300 to purchase sign material and posts to replace the faded hand-written trail signs. MM&S.
- Acorn: The parking area has been opened for vehicle access. Greg delivered the gate to the Highway Department. The Highway Department will install the gate and grade the parking area. Evy and Greg will meet with Acting Police Chief Joel Johnson to discuss ongoing incursions. Trail markers will be added in an upcoming work session.
- Frye: Greg requested a maximum of \$200 for signs, \$400 for Leopold benches to place along Colby Brook and \$100 for a bog bridge. MM&S. Geof and Greg removed the hanging tree limb on the Red trail. Evy said that there is another large appliance now visible off the Blue trail. She also suggested a spur trail to the large rock outcrop that is adjacent to the Red trail.
- Sargent: Greg delivered the gate to the Highway Department. They will install the gate and complete the parking area.
- Manuel: Evy will order the “No Dumping of Yard Waste” sign. The cartop launch signage will be addressed after the Valley Lane work is completed.

National Trails Day:

Evy obtained a price quote of \$50 for a banner for Valley Lane. It was decided to use the existing KCC “Hike Kingston” banner instead.

Evy will contact SELT to ask what they will do to promote the hike and notify neighbors. It was decided that Valley Lane residents should be notified that there will be a public event with people parking on the street.

Evy will make some notes on Valley Lane’s history, forest management, trail development and forest highlights to be used in guiding the hike.

Pollinator Pathways Committee:

- The Seed Library will open on May 21 following the Library Plant Sale and 10th anniversary celebration. A pollinator garden kit donated by Bagley Pond Perennials will be raffled off.
- PP has scheduled the following presentations and outreach activities:
 - Table at Exeter Unitarian Universalist Church Climate Festival on May 7.

- Pollinator garden cleanup at Valley Lane on May 28.
- Table at Exeter Alewife Festival on May 14.
- Presentation at Kensington Elementary School 4th grade on May 16.
- Presentation to the Pelham Conservation Commission on June 16.
- A table for the Newmarket garden tour on June 19 and June 25.
- A table at Kingston Days in August.
- Presentation to the Monadnock Garden Club on September 21.
- Workshop with Newmarket Conservation Commission on October 15.

Aquifer Protection Zone Signs:

Evvy distributed several sign designs produced by Mark Battle and asked for input. It was decided that the sign that included “Kingston Aquifer” was the most appropriate.

CPLA news:

There will be a Zoom meeting on May 18 at 7pm with Amy Smagula of NH DES to discuss the proposed Long Term Management Plan for spiny naiad.

KLA news:

Geof reported that Kingston Lake Association and Camp Lincoln have collaborated to apply for and receive a \$100,000 grant to create a Watershed Management Plan for Great Pond.

Old Business/Bucket List:

- Invasives at Sargent (in easement) ROW Eversource
- Consideration of a historical marker at ET’s Landing for Indigenous People’s Day
- Granit update
- Improved trails intersection signage
- Beaver pipes 107

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

Next meeting Thursday, June 9, 6:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary