

Draft Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

7/7/2022

Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm at the Kingston Community Library

Present: Evy Nathan, Linda Foss, Shaw Tilton, Greg Senko, Phil Coombs (Select Board Ex Officio)

Excused Absence: Marghi Bean, Bob Smith, Geof Harris, Elizabeth Mello, Melissa Butler

Guests: Walt Roy, Jeff Sluder

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the 6/9/2022 meeting were reviewed. MM&S to accept the minutes, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Shaw provided a budget summary:

Conservation Fund: \$28,201.49
(Working Balance \$9,925.49, Aquatic Invasives Reserve \$18,276.00)

Forest Fund: \$ 17,244.91

The Trails Committee had planned to build two kiosks this year, one for Acorn Town Forest and another for Sargent. However, since Trails has used most of its 2022 budget it was decided that only the Acorn kiosk would be built this year with funds coming from the Conservation Fund. Sargent expenses cannot be paid out of the Forest Fund since it is not a town forest. MM&S to spend up to \$500 for one kiosk.

Shaw will work on wording for a warrant article to release money from the Forest Fund for future Town Forest trails projects.

Bob submitted a receipt for grass seed for the Acorn parking area.

Greg asked approval for reimbursement of \$57 for a replacement battery for the UTV. MM&S.

Correspondence:

- Evy received a tip about someone dumping wastewater from their RV at the Tucker & French parking area near Gate 6. The license plate was identified through the reporter's photograph, and he was later ticketed.
- A post on Facebook about an abandoned car on Back Road led to the individual who had left it there coming forward. He has recently purchased land on Back Road. The same individual had filled in the low portion of Back Road which resulted in additional runoff into wetlands.

The town has issued a cease-and-desist order to prevent further disruption of wetlands. He has promised to remove the abandoned vehicle.

Planning Board, DES, OEP, ZBA:

- 72 Route 125: Map 8 Lot 35. Change of use from car dealer to dog day care. No comment.
- Hawk's Ridge: Map R3 Lot 4. Lot line adjustment. No comment.
- Town-owned land sale: Two residents have asked the town if they may purchase the following town-owned parcels: R29 Lot 5, U1 Lot 34. No comment as there are no wetlands involved. It was noted that U1 Lot 24 falls within the Shoreland Protection Zone.
- Mayhew/Newman Intent to Cut: Mr. Coombs reported that this timber cut has not yet been done. Evy may contact County Forester Greg Jordan to ask for his input on the timber harvest plans.
- LCIP Monitoring: Charlotte Harding is planning on doing monitoring walks on Monday, July 18 or Tuesday, July 19. The following people are assigned to accompany her: Russman – Jeff, Bakie, Bake, Mayhew – Evy, Manuel – Greg.

New Business:

- ATV Incursions: Greg spoke with Conservation Officer Richard Crouse of NH F&G. Officer Crouse said that if game camera photographs are sufficient to identify the individual responsible for the incursion then he will speak with them. Officer Crouse also said that the Danville Select Board has voted to allow residents to drive their ATVs on the power line easement in their town. He felt that this will result in increased ATV incursions, as it is very likely that non-residents will ride there as well, and that ATVs will continue to ride the power lines into other towns and neighboring properties.

Trails Committee:

- Valley Lane: Ron Klemarczyk recommended that the town obtain a new forest management plan for Valley Lane as the original plan was done many years ago and needs updating, particularly if the town expects to add acreage through the Alessio property purchase. Evy suggested that we use the Forest Fund next year to do this.
- Alessio Property: Walt reported that he, Peter Coffin and Ernie Landry spent several hours searching for an old corner marker to the property. They succeeded in locating the corner marker, so the property can now be surveyed as part of the purchase agreement.
- Manuel: Signs for the Cartop Boat Launch have been finalized. MM&S to spend up to \$500 to purchase the signs. There is a work session scheduled for July 17 to clean up the area and clear brush, and to mark where the Highway Department should place rocks to delineate the property line and prevent trailer access.
- Library Trail: Greg contacted Library Director Melissa Mannon by email and explained the steps necessary to link the Library Trail to the Tucker & French trails. He provided a list of property owners who would have to give permission for the trail to cross their property. He

also suggested that she contact FOKOS for advice on how to obtain a right of way or easement. Rick Russman sent her a copy of a snowmobile club landowner permission agreement to use as a starting point.

- Signs: Evy found a “No Access – Emergency Vehicles Only” sign that she proposed be placed on the gates at Acorn, Sargent and Frye. A sign is also required at Lake Road to replace the “Private Property – No Trespassing” signs put up by residents on LCIP property. Mr. Coombs suggested “No outlet – Resident Traffic Only” and that the ConCom check with the Highway Department to ask how the signs could be obtained.
- Trails brochure: MM&S to purchase 150 brochures to hand out at Kingston Days. Mr. Coombs suggested speaking with Highway Department Administrator Lisa Perreault to find out who she used to print the MS4 outreach materials.

Pollinator Pathways NH Committee:

- Two Pollinator Conversation events were held last month - one on invasives with County Forester Greg Jordan, and one on re-wilding your yard with Cheryl Keim.
- 80 kids’ grab bags were assembled as handouts for Pollinator Week at the Library children’s room
- PP has scheduled the following activities:
 - Table at Kingston Days on August 6 (with KCC)
 - Presentation to the Monadnock Garden Club on September 21
 - Workshop with Newmarket Conservation Commission on October 15

Old Business/Bucket List:

- Invasives at Sargent
- 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 8:40pm

Next meeting Thursday, August 4, 6:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary