

Draft Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

9/8/2022

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

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Shaw Tilton, Greg Senko, Elizabeth Mello, Bob Smith, Geof Harris, Kevin St. James (Select Board Ex-Officio)

Excused Absence: Melissa Butler

Guests: Walt Roy, Jeff Sluder, Henry and Lillian Lehman, 6 Beaver Pond Rd.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the 8/4/2022 meeting were not reviewed as pages were missing from the copy distributed prior to the meeting. Minutes will be reviewed at the October meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Shaw provided a budget summary:

Conservation Fund: \$28,231.40
(Working Balance \$9,955.40, Aquatic Invasives Reserve \$18,276.00)

Forest Fund: \$ 17,260.27

Trail maintenance expenditures are over budget for this year totaling \$2,769.65 through 9/8/2022.

Beaver Pond Road Shooting Range:

SELT forwarded a complaint that it received from several residents on Beaver Pond Road regarding a private shooting range. Greg Senko and Linda Foss accompanied Detective Andrew Garvin of the Kingston PD to the site to evaluate the risk to people walking the Frye Town Forest Blue Trail, which is directly across Colby Brook from the shooting range. As the site posed a clear danger to anyone walking the trail while the range is in use, the Conservation Commission closed the trails until the issue could be resolved. Subsequently, the resident met with Chief Johnson, Evy Nathan and Greg Senko to discuss alternatives. The resident ultimately decided to close the range and join a local gun club.

Henry and Lillian Lehman, the neighbors who contacted SELT, came in person to thank the CC for helping to resolve the issue.

Correspondence:

- The Town Clerk's office forwarded a complaint from a resident regarding plans for demolishing and rebuilding the house at 19 Hooke Ave. The complaint alleges that the owner

replaced the septic system without a permit in 2020 which has resulted in a large amount of stormwater runoff into Country Pond. The Conservation Commission will review plans when they are received.

- VLAP water test reports for Powwow Pond, E coli beach test results for Kingston State Park and Greenwood Pond.
- Granite State Tree Farmer
- Evy received an email complaint from a resident about Map10 Lot 9 being offered for sale. This is a commercially zoned property on Route 125 that is not in the aquifer protection district. No issue for the Conservation Commission at this time.

Planning Board, DES, OEP, ZBA:

- 7 New Boston Road. Dredge and fill permit application for septic system. As a large portion of this lot is wetlands, Kevin St. James suggested that the Conservation Commission organize a site walk to assess the impact on wetlands.
- LCIP Monitoring Assignments: Manuel – Evy and Jeff. Mayhew – Evy and Shaw.

New Business:

Evy and Greg will meet with the Select Board on September 12 to provide an update on CC activities.

The NHACC Conference is scheduled for Saturday, November 2. It will be in person this year.

Trails Committee:

- Trail signs: Greg received an estimate from Robert Price of RPC of \$3,000 to create two trail map signs. Subsequently, Greg researched mapping software and determined that Caltopo would provide the best base map. He will ask Mark Battle to help create the legend and any additional artwork. MM&S to purchase a one-year subscription to Caltopo for \$50.
- Acorn: The kiosk is nearly complete and will be installed when Peter Coffin returns. Paul and Karen Dearborn, Geof and Evy planted the “Backcross” chestnut tree at the Acorn trailhead.
- Manuel: The Highway Department installed the signs for the cartop boat launch. A work session was held to do a final cleanup and install a game camera. Greg reported that an abutter has placed a “No Trespassing” sign on town property that will have to be removed. Also, the “Private Property” signs that have been placed on town land on Lake Rd. need to be removed.
- Valley Lane: The purchase of the Alessio property is nearing completion. Greg suggested that the Trails Committee start mapping trails on the property and to determine what will be required to use the Right of Way access on LeFevre Drive. Greg asked if a warrant article was needed to include this property in Valley Lane so that the Forest Fund could be used for trail development. Evy proposed providing hand-crafted walking sticks at the trail entrance as a novelty addition.

- Sargent/ET's Landing: ET's Landing needs to be cleared, Evy has a group coming to do this in October. The Trails Committee is scheduled to do trail cleanup on Oct 4th and will remove the large fallen tree from the ET's landing area.
- Trail Brochures: Need to be re-ordered soon.
- Currier WMA: Evy proposed marking a trail to connect the Currier Wildlife Management Area to the town-owned conservation land behind Ash Drive. Greg said that one of the lots bordering Rowell Road was owned by the town and could be a potential site for parking.
- Frye Town Forest: Frye has been re-opened following the temporary closure due to the shooting range. Greg and Geof will install the benches next week.

Pollinator Pathways NH Committee:

- Kristen Murphy, Exeter's Natural Resource Planner, has submitted a grant application to fund 65 pollinator garden plots in 13 surrounding towns.
- Upcoming PPNH events:
 - Sept. 21: Slide presentation: Monadnock Garden Club 10:00
 - Oct.15: Workshop event Newmarket
 - Sept. 24: Dover: how to cultivate native plants from seed
 - Oct. 29: Annual Seed exchange: Kingston Rec
 - April 2023: Atkinson Garden Club presentation

Old Business/Bucket List:

- Update list of conservation properties
- Improved trails intersection signage
- Warrant articles for Forest Fund and for adding Alessio property to Valley Lane
- ROW Eversource, Sargent
- Consideration of a historical marker at ET's Landing for Indigenous People's Day
- Granit update
- Beaver pipes 107

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm

Next meeting Thursday, September 8, 6:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary