

Minutes

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Shaw Tilton, Bob Smith, Geof Harris, Greg Senko (via phone), Elizabeth Mello, Charles Hart (Select Board Ex Officio)

Secretary's Report:

Treasurer's Report:

Conservation Fund: \$28,562.19
(Working Balance \$10,286.19, Aquatic Invasives Reserve \$18,276.00)

Forest Fund: \$ 17,335.60

Correspondence:

- Email from resident Jocelyn Lavoie, an abutter to 266 Route 125, with a general complaint about the project going ahead, and a comment that hers and others property values will suffer. Evy responded that the Conservation Commission did all that it could to hold the applicant to every wetland ordinance, but that the property is in the commercial zone. and there is little else that the CC alone can do.
- NH Tree Farm newsletter. Reported that hemlock woolly adelgid continues to spread with warmer winters.
- SELT Views newsletter

Planning Board, DES, OEP, ZBA:

- 14 Lake Road (Fidler): Charlotte Harding sent a letter requesting a meeting between the resident, the town, and OSI to discuss the incursions onto the Manuel property. Ms. Harding said that Conservation Land Stewardship Director Steve Walker wants to attend the meeting. Chuck Hart reported that Code Enforcement Officer Jess Nisbet was in touch with the resident and had received assurance that the boat will be moved by Saturday, April 8. Evy questioned whether the shed had been built before the property was conserved, and if so, would it be grandfathered.
- 12 West Shore Park Road, Map R10 Lot 10. No comment, proposed buildings are situated outside the wetland buffer.
- Northeast Atlantic Properties, Map R9 Lot 89. No comment.
- Summit Distributing, Map R40 Lots 15, 16. Comments to the Planning Board: There does not appear to be a wetlands scientist's stamp on the plans. Is one required? Once the project is completed, who will be responsible for monitoring the site to ensure that the environmental safety measures are maintained and in proper working order?

Trails Committee:

- The hiking sign opposite the entrance to Valley Lane has been repaired thanks to the DPW.
- There is a Trails meeting planned for April 26 to discuss spring projects. Greg asked for a list of downed trees that need to be cleared to help plan work sessions.
- Eben Lewis was unable to schedule a site visit to the Sargent Property. Phil Coombs visited the site with Evy and said that the most effective solution is a culvert. Evy will ask Mr. Lewis what type of permit would be required for a culvert.
- Evy would like to host a trail walk at Acorn Town Forest for National Trails Day on June 3.

Pollinator Pathways:

Marghi provided an overview of the Pollinator Pathways initiative and current projects:

- The Stepping Stones grant project to create five pollinator gardens in each of 13 Rockingham County towns is moving forward.
- The Seed Library opening was very successful, with approximately 70 attendees.
- PPNH has presented to the Massabesic Garden Club, Monadnock Garden Club, and Rochester Garden Club.
- Upcoming events include:
 - Presentation to Atkinson Garden Club
 - Presentation to Dover Open Land Committee

- Spring ephemeral guided walk with Kevin Talbot in Epping
- Milkweed Seed giveaway at Freshwater Farms
- Daily activities planned for Pollinator Week June 19 - 25

New Business:

- This was Geof Harris' last meeting, as he is leaving Kingston to pursue a new job opportunity. Everyone on the Conservation Commission thanks him for many hours of valuable service and we wish him the best in his new endeavor.
- The Conservation Commission welcomes Selectman Charles Hart as our new ex-officio.
- Valley Lane Forest Management Plan. Evy has reached out to Ron Klemarczyk to discuss developing a new plan to encompass the lots recently added to the town forest.
- Frye Road vandalism and trash. The "No Trash Dumping" signs and the game camera that Walt and Geof put up at the turnout were damaged and/or stolen, and more trash was dumped. It was agreed that attempting to stop the activity is a losing battle and the only solution would be to get law enforcement involved. Mr. Hart will speak with Jess Nisbet about the matter.
- Walt installed the new bluebird boxes, generously donated by residents, at the fairgrounds.
- Evy attended a meeting with town employees, commissioners, and committee members to discuss Committee and Commission business procedure. Shaw will obtain details on the new purchasing procedures.
- Evy represented the Conservation Commission at the town MS4 meeting on April 3.

Old Business/Bucket List:

- Review of Conserved Properties Book. The review is complete and Evy is in the process of obtaining the missing information.
- Valley Lane downed boundary pipe. Evy has contacted Chuck Geary to help locate the portion of pipe remaining in the ground.
- Historical marker at ET's Landing

Other:

Elizabeth questioned whether there were wetlands on Map R19 Lots 15 and 16, which has recently been clear-cut.

Elizabeth reported that the lights at the Bresnahan storage facility at 250 Route 125 were very bright. She recalled that the owners had agreed to dim the lights at night during the spring breeding season and asked if they could be reminded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm

Next meeting Thursday, May 4, 6:45pm

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Foss, Secretary