

Minutes: Kingston Conservation Commission

10/4/18

Meeting called to order 6:45 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, John Ricker, Greg Senko, Linda Foss, Bob Smith

Guests: Jeff Sluder

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Evy proposed that the Commission pay membership fees to Kingston Lake Association, Powwow Pond Council and Country Pond Lake Association for 2019. The motion was seconded, all in favor.

Evy noted that this year the Commission is over budget on training and seminars line, and that she will request \$500 for that item in the 2019 budget. Rockingham County Conservation District has billed the Commission for the Frye invasive spraying. \$400 will be paid from Professional Services line and the balance will be paid from the Forest Fund.

Correspondence:

Russ Chute of the Powwow Pond Council sent a letter requesting that the Commission make the Powwow Pond milfoil remediation expense an annual budget item instead of PPC submitting a warrant article (listed in our budget) as they have done in past years. The current (estimated) requested annual amount is \$15,000. Evy has reached out to NHACC Executive Director Barbara Richter to ask for input on how other towns handle this issue. Through Barbara we learned that town-based milfoil committees were the most common entities for dealing with and financing the issue. After discussion, the Commission decided not to consider this large amount for the 2019 budget, which has already been submitted. At this time we do not feel that financing milfoil control for Powwow Pond should be a line item in our budget. The commission would then become responsible for spending of and oversight of this money. There are also two other lake/pond associations, for whom milfoil could become an issue. We are open to future discussion on the subject.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

AJA Auto, 52 Route 125: AJA is proposing a new building on their property which abuts Bayberry Pond. Evy noted that there is no wetlands scientist's stamp on the plan, and that although it bears the Town Engineer's stamp; the stamp has not been signed. The Commission has the following questions regarding the proposal:

What is the purpose of the new building: automotive repair, automotive storage, office space, or a combination of uses?

Will there be hazardous materials on site? Where will they be located and how will they be disposed of?

What is the maximum impervious lot coverage for this site?

What is the Town Engineer's opinion of the proposal to replace the vegetated buffer on the northern border of the property with an 8' wood stockade fence?

7 Small Pox Road: Property owner Daniel Parks is requesting permission to excavate a 5.0 acre pond between 25' – 30' deep on his property with the intention of stocking it with trout. The Commission has the following questions and comments regarding this proposal:

The plans show a portion of the proposed pond extending onto Eversource property near the power lines. Is Eversource aware of the proposed project and have they granted permission?

This project does not appear to have been reviewed or certified by a wetlands scientist.

The Commission will confirm Mr. Parks' statement that Eben Lewis of the NH DES Wetlands Bureau has told him a permit will not be required for the work.

Part of Mr. Parks' property may be classified as an exemplary natural community by NHB due to the presence of Atlantic White Cedars. Any impact on cedar trees on the property will need to be evaluated. The Commission would like to know if NHB has been contacted.

Part of Mr. Parks' property may be classified as an exemplary natural community by the NHB due to the presence of Atlantic White Cedar. Any impact on white cedar trees on the property will need to be evaluated.

The Commission would like to have input from the site engineer regarding the environmental impact of moving such a large amount of material during excavation.

We would request a review of a proposed dewatering plan as part of the review process, and mandate gauging of the closest supply wells.

Diamond Oaks: This plan bears a "No wetlands exist on this site" stamp; however, the Commission would like to clarify why the wetland on the north side of Diamond Oaks Blvd. just across the street from this site does not have a wetland buffer noted on the plan.

LCIP: The fall LCIP walks need to be scheduled soon.

Signs/Trails/Forests:

Evy is trying to contact the president of Southern NH Trailblazers to set a date for cutting the new trail at Frye.

The DES permit for Ben Giles' Eagle Scout wildlife viewing project at Kingston Fairways has been approved.

Evy went with James Merritt and his father Michael to measure for the bog bridges that James will build for his Eagle Scout project. A permit for this work will also be required.

Election Day Booth:

Evy and Marghi plan to set up a table at the Swasey Gym on November 6.

Frye Cellar Hole Archaeology:

Charles River Labs volunteers cleared the cellar hole at Frye. On Friday, September 28 Evy, Greg and Linda visited the site to take additional measurements so that mapping can be completed. The signs are ready to be put up. Walt Roy will mount them.

Country Pond Car top Launch:

Greg reported that Ernie Landry showed him how to research deeds to help determine whether the proposed car top boat launch site on Lake Road is feasible. Greg noted that as of the last revision of town tax maps in 2007 both Green and Lake Roads are shown as private roads. Evy suggested checking with Rich St. Hilaire to clarify.

Kingston Community Library Volunteer Night:

Marghi represented KCC at the Volunteer Night and reported several people expressed interest in the commission's work.

Warrant Article:

Evy suggested the possibility of submitting a warrant article to designate more town properties as Town Forests. Although this would mean more management responsibilities for the Commission, it would also provide additional funds for forest management via timber harvests. There are currently 5 properties that are designated Town Forests and managed by the Commission, but there are numerous other town-owned conservation properties that are not designated, and remain unmanaged.

Valley Lane Poison Ivy:

Evy noted that the poison ivy at and near the entrance to Valley Lane was dying off, but should be dealt with next year.

Meeting adjourned 8:11 pm.

Next meeting Thursday, November 8, 6:45 pm