

Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

6/6/19

Meeting called to order 6:48 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Greg Senko, Linda Foss, John Ricker, Ken Twombly, Elizabeth Mello, Amanda Prohett, Richard Wilson (BOS ex officio)

Excused absence: Marghi Bean, Bob Smith

Guests: Jeff Sluder, Walt Roy, Karen Conti, Unitil - Nick DeMarchi and Dave Hogue

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as written. Motion by Greg, Elizabeth seconded, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

June 1 bank balances were not yet available. CPLA submitted an invoice for water testing. John will submit to Cindy Kenerson for payment.

Correspondence:

SELT sent an invitation to their Conservation Celebration at Zorvino Vineyards on June 12.

The Rockingham Planning Commission sent an invitation to their Annual Meeting on June 12.

Powwow Pond Council sent their latest water testing report. There is more milfoil present in Powwow Pond, and Russ Chute reports that they have hired DASH divers to take care of it.

NH DES Supply Lines newsletter. DES has lowered the acceptable limits for arsenic in drinking water and is starting a new program for studying PFAS in drinking water.

New Business:

Unitil natural gas pipeline: Unitil is extending their natural gas pipeline to provide service to the Benevento asphalt plant on Roadstone Drive. The pipeline will be located on the southbound side of Route 125, just beyond the guardrail. Part of the pipeline is adjacent to wetlands and will impact the Little River buffer. The Unitil representatives presented the project to the Commission, noting that they expect to do the project this summer, and requested an email stating that the Conservation Commission has no concerns or requests regarding the project. Laying the pipe will create a temporary disturbance of two weeks as they dig a trench 3' wide x 4' deep, lay the pipe, and backfill.

Unitil stated that they will follow DOT best management practices for digging near wetlands which will include using a sediment barrier. They have had a natural resource survey done, flagged the wetlands, and met with the DOT, but have not yet met with DES. Evy requested, and was given a copy of, the letter from the Natural Heritage Bureau stating that there are no

endangered species in the proposed work area. Evy also expressed concern about the potential impact to the Little River.

Kingston 325th Events:

Evy has found a host for the 325th celebration geology hike at Valley Lane. They will visit Valley Lane in advance to prepare.

Patrick Seekamp has agreed to host a 325th wildflower walk. No date has been set yet.

NH Lakes Congress: John attended the Lakes Congress on May 31. He attended sessions on aquatic invasives and solar-powered portable boat cleaning stations, showing us photos of the portable station.

Pollinator Pathways: Marghi sent a newsletter to the Pollinator Pathways mailing list with links to information resources for planning wildflower gardens.

Planning Board/Select Board meeting attendance. Evy pointed out that in order to be more effective the Commission should always have a member in attendance at Planning Board and Select Board meetings when there are conservation-related issues on the agendas. She asked the Commission for volunteers to help cover these meetings when she cannot be available.

Rec Department garden cleanup: Evy will organize a garden spring cleanup to help campers be ready to plant herbs and flowers.

Highway sponsor sign: The Commission would like to thank Holly Ouellette for including KCC on the highway sponsor sign recently posted on Route 111.

Ottati & Goss: Greg and Linda reported that Jim Brown of the EPA presented the results of Country Pond surface water testing at the CPLA Annual Meeting on June 1. Initial tests indicate that PFAS levels for swimming and recreation are below the established threshold levels. Further surface water testing will be done in the coming weeks to confirm these results. Well water tests results are due mid- to late-June.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

Smallpox Road. The proposed 5-acre trout pond has been reduced to 2 acres and will be situated farther from the Folly Brook Terrace conservation area than it was before. This is anticipated to be a 2 ½ year project excavating 66,000 cu ft of gravel, which is the equivalent of 2400 truckloads. There will be a maximum of 22 trucks per day entering and leaving the site. Mr. Parks says dewatering will not be required; however, Dennis Quintal will monitor the project regularly to ensure that there is no negative impact on groundwater. Mr. Parks will post a \$5,000 bond to cover town engineer inspections and road repairs.

The Commission is concerned about dust generated from transportation, and wind erosion impacting the adjacent protected wetlands, particularly how this will effect Atlantic white cedars. Evy will prepare questions for Mr. Parks regarding dust and sediment on the road and will request that he come before the Commission, as a courtesy, to answer these questions.

2 & 4 Granite Road. Lot line adjustment between the two lots. No comment.

4 Marshall Road. Bluestone Investment Group/Edgewood Village. No changes were found that would impact conservation.

61 North Road. No changes were found in the 5/17/19 revision that would impact conservation. No comment.

Memories Ice Cream. Proposed gazebo. No comment.

*Rich suggested that to streamline the plan review process, the Commission should request that the Planning Board highlight recent changes when providing updated plans. He also offered, when needed, to review plans in advance of our meetings.

Signs/Trails/Forests:

Photos of Valley Lane, Frye Forest and Acorn Forests will be uploaded by Bob Smith to the Trailfinder website.

Evy pointed out that the Acorn trail needs to be marked more clearly in some places, and that some of the extranumerary trails have not yet been blocked off.

Rich reported that the issue with shooting near one of the West Acorn trails has been resolved with the homeowner.

Marghi reported that the Blue Trail in Frye Town Forest is now so flooded, due to beaver activity, that the proposed bog bridges could be underwater. Evy and Michael and James Merritt area will go out to view the chosen bog-bridge sites for changes in water level.

Country Pond Car Top Launch:

Greg spoke with Mr. Murphy and relayed to him Rich St. Hilaire's offer to help maintain his road in exchange for public access. Mr. Murphy declined the offer, noting that he had experienced past difficulty with trespassers both blocking the road and driving snowmobiles on it, and felt that any allowed access would invite future problems.

CPLA News:

The Country Pond Lake Host program has enough employees and volunteers to start boat ramp monitoring.

FOKOS Update:

FOKOS raised \$1100 at their annual yard sale.

Meeting adjourned 8:55 pm. Motion by Evy, seconded by Ken, all in favor.

Next meeting Thursday, July 11, 6:45 pm at the library