

Minutes
Kingston Conservation Commission
9/7/2023

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

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Shaw Tilton, Greg Senko, Bob Smith

Excused Absences: Elizabeth Mello, Charles Hart (Select Board Ex Officio)

Guests: Jeff Sluder, Walt Roy

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the 8/3/23 meeting were reviewed. MM&S to accept the minutes as written, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Shaw presented the monthly budget report:

Conservation Fund: \$24,079.37

(Working Balance \$10,483.37.00, Aquatic Invasives Reserve \$13,596.00)

Forest Fund: \$ 17,379.17

Correspondence:

- VLAP reports for Country Pond and Great Pond
- NH Tree Farm newsletter
- Katie Bates, SELT email informing that Valley Lane monitoring walk is scheduled for September 19.
- Christine Bunyon, Kingston Lake Advisory Committee, email regarding progress on Watershed Management Plan
- Ron Klemarczyk, email informing that he will do the Valley Lane tree inventory in September.

Planning Board, DES, OEP, ZBA:

- Unitil Solar Array. Nick Golon of TF Moran's reply to Dennis Quintal's comments indicated that there were changes made to the placement of several solar panels. However, the plans available at the time of the meeting did not show the changes. Evy said she would ask Mr. Golon if he could meet with the KCC on September 14 to could explain the changes.

- DES response to letter of complaint regarding an alleged unpermitted dock on Wadleigh Point Road. No comment at this time.
- Intent to Cut, 26 Exeter Road, Map 37 Lot 24A, 26. No comment.

Trails Committee:

- Trails welcomes two new volunteers, Clarissa Finks and Ryan Magnus, who attended the latest Trails meeting.
- Acorn Town Forest. Greg contacted Phil Coombs regarding providing wood chips to spread on the spongy section of the White trail.
- Green Road. A kiosk was installed at the boat launch parking area on Green Road.
- Sargent/ET's Landing. The kiosk was installed near the gate. While they were working, a neighbor approached the work crew to complain about people using the parking lot for partying. Greg said that no inappropriate activity was picked up by the game camera that was installed there last summer, but that they could put it up again.
- Sargent/ET's Landing. Greg asked for a vote on a proposed name for the combined Sargent Estate and ET's Landing conservation properties so he could order the kiosk signs. The majority voted for "Powwow River Conservation Area," which would encompass the existing conservation properties plus others along the Powwow River which may be added in the future. Evy expressed concern that people would confuse it with a conservation area with the same name in Amesbury, MA. It was agreed that when referring to the area in print, on the KCC website, and in trail map apps, it would be referred to as Powwow River Conservation Area – Kingston" to avoid confusion.
- Valley Lane. Greg and several other Trails members walked the proposed extension to the Orange trail that will provide access to the new Valley Lane property. On the way, they passed the site of the missing boundary pipe and observed that the spot where metal was detected was not in line with the witness trees. They concluded that the only way to properly place the missing boundary pipe will be to have it surveyed.

Pollinator Pathways:

- PPNH will have a table at Kingston Days on September 9. Evy requested volunteers for setup and take down.
- PPNH will present at the Hampton Falls Library on September 13.
- PPNH will attend SELT Trailfest in October.
- Evy received a request for information from the Applied Botany teacher at Sanborn Regional High School.

New Business:

- Prime Wetlands. Evy learned that several areas in Hampton Falls were designated as “prime wetlands.” A prime wetlands designation is provided upon request by a wetland scientist who surveys the wetland in question to determine whether it qualifies. The primary benefit of this designation is that it could provide additional protection to wetlands in town which are not already in conservation. There are many other local towns that use the prime wetlands designation, including Atkinson, Brentwood, Salem, Exeter, and Derry. Evy suggested several areas in town that could potentially benefit from this, including Folly Brook, Bayberry Pond, several areas bordering the Powwow River, Camp Lincoln, and the Little River area south of Tucker & French Family Forest. Evy suggested that we consider looking into this in future. If an area is selected for such a designation, it would have to be established through a warrant article and vote.
- Rowell Estates. Ernie Landry researched this property and found that, though put into conservation in the early 2000s, a subdivision was never created for the condominium community. He brought the matter to the Select Board, who agreed that the town’s attorney should review the deeds and make a recommendation. This is a 94-acre property, with approximately 30 developed acres and approximately 70 acres of conservation land.
- Evy has agreed to do a presentation on hiking for a senior lecture series at the Library.

Old Business/Bucket List:

- Review of Conserved Properties Book/Granit update.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

Next meeting Thursday, October 5, 6:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Foss, Secretary