

Minutes

Kingston Conservation Commission

9/5/19

Meeting called to order 6:45 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Greg Senko, Elizabeth Mello, John Ricker

Excused absence: Bob Smith

Guests: Walt Roy, Russell Chute and Paul Dearborn – Powwow Pond Council

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as written. Motion by Greg, Marghi second. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Evy and John met to review line items for the 2020 budget. Everything will remain the same except public education, where the Commission will request an increase from \$500 to \$600 due to increased attendance at conferences.

Correspondence:

No correspondence this month.

Old Business:

Ken's Auto Body tire removal. Bob was not present so he will provide an update at next month's meeting.

Bakie Snowshoe Trail. The trail is now complete and Evy plans to walk it with Principal Snyder

New Business:

Powwow Pond Council Budget Proposal: Russell Chute presented a revised proposal for a warrant article establishing a \$14,000 annual Conservation Commission budget line item for milfoil mitigation in any Kingston waterbody. The proposal further stated that any unspent funds would be carried forward for future use, and that funds will be used for DASH divers and will not be used for herbicides except in an emergency and only if recommended by NH DES. Russell explained that year to date Powwow Pond has spent \$4,000, have a balance of \$16,654, and plan to spend another \$5,000 by year end.

Evy will discuss with the Select Board and finance officer how the proposed milfoil mitigation fund could be integrated into the Conservation Commission's budget.

VLAP Water Testing: Greg proposed using the 2019 money that had been reserved to purchase an oxygen meter to be used instead for a second Kemmerer bottle for Powwow Pond. If all three

lake associations have their own bottle it will allow the three lakes to test on the same day and send samples to Concord in a single trip.

Pollinator Pathways. The next Pollinator Pathways event, a talk on pollinator-friendly fall cleanups by Patty Laughlin of Lorax Landscaping, will be held September 19 at 7pm at the Kingston Community Library.

Other planned and possible events include: an election day booth at Swasey Gym; purchasing books for the library; a field trip to Bedrock Gardens in Lee; a field trip to the Great Bay Community Garden.

Geology Hike: The Geology Hike at Valley Lane has been rescheduled to Saturday, September 21 at 9am. Charles Kerwin, PhD Geology from Keene State, will lead the hike on the Red Trail.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

*3 West Shore Park Drive Subdivision. No comment.

*16 Church St. condo subdivision. No comment at this time, will wait for next set of plans.

*John's Auto Body – New Boston Road. Expedited review request for a metal recycling operation. Considering the property's history of hazardous waste spills into the aquifer and proximity to wetlands, the Commission has concerns about the project and requests answers to the following questions: What will the recycling process be? Is there is specific site for the operation, and will the materials be kept within that area? When/how often will the materials be collected? Will there be a significant increase in truck traffic? Will there be petroleum-based fluids in the materials stored for recycling? Is there a plan in place for handling hazardous waste spills? Have the owners of the abutting properties been notified?

Signs/Trails/Forests:

Bob regenerated the QR codes for the trail maps at Valley Lane, Acorn and Frye Town Forests using a free app. QR codes will be posted at trail heads.

Valley Lane: Melissa Butler will plant the pollinator plant seeds and Bee Balm. Jeff refilled the kiosk with maps. Greg removed a tree blocking the Orange Trail and cleared the red trail for hikers during the geology walk. Thank you, Greg!

West Kingston Town Forest: Greg has ordered the gate and will pick it up from Tractor Supply and deliver it to the town garage for the Highway Dept. to install. West Kingston Town Forest trails have been cleared and a tree stand was taken down. A permit by botification fro DES will be required for the proposed bog bridges.

Acorn Town Forest: The Trails Committee has decided to postpone development of a parking area. For now, parking for the Acorn Trail will remain along the cul de sac. The trailhead also needs to be blocked more effectively to prevent ongoing ATV incursions. The Acorn Town Forest trailhead will need an information kiosk; Evy mentioned that it could be an Eagle Scout project.

North Kingston Town Forest: A letter will be written and attached to the tree stand in the North Kingston Town Forest giving the owner 30 days to remove it.

SELT TrailFest will be held on September 21 starting at 9am at Burley Farms in Epping.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm.

Next meeting Thursday, October 3, 6:45 pm at the library