

MEETING MINUTES

Barrington Conservation Commission

November 19, 2015 7:00 PM
Barrington Middle School Library, Rte 9

PRESENT: John Wallace, Chair
Marika Wilde
Anne Melvin
Ken Grossman
Alison Desmarais, Alternate
Dan Ayer, Alternate

ABSENT: Pam Failing, Vice-chair
Susan Gaudiello, Selectmen representative
Peter Sandin, Alternate
Glenn Gould, Alternate

CALL TO ORDER

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of November 19, 2015 to order at 7:00.

DELEGATION OF VOTING MEMBERS Chair John Wallace confirmed the presence of members as above.

- 1) Sightings Marika reported a barred owl, and Stephen Jeffrey said there were sightings of bobcat on his property.
- 2) Guests: Stephen Jeffrey to speak on the Wilson property.
- 3) Approval of minutes of November 5 **Alison Desmarais made a motion to approve the minutes of November 5 as amended. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

Marika Wilde made a motion to release and make public minutes of August 20. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of six (6) to zero (0) in favor.

Alison Desmarais made a motion to release and make public the minutes of February 16, 2012, April 5th and 19th 2012, May 17, 2012, and July 18, 2013. Anne Melvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of six (6) to zero (0) in favor.

4) Complaints:

5) Old Business

a) Conservation Projects:

- i) Renna property: placing easement on this (and Leahy) will require town vote – selectmen have approved. This should appear before the voters in March.

- b) Emerald Acres (Topaz Dr.) Will town be applicant for FEMA funds? There are no new developments.
- c) Calef Isinglass River Preserve
 - i) Parking area & improvement to Town Farm Road for access to Calef Preserve. Update on cost? This will be covered when Pam is present.
- d) Con Com Facebook page (Glenn)
- e) Planning Board:
 - i) 17-lot conservation subdivision on Tolend Rd. (Chestnut Forest) John stated probably the conservation land will be deeded to the town. and the group reviewed the plans to determine what the access to the conservation land would be. Possibly Substitute Road could provide access as well as the buffer around the lot properties. There was review of the maps and discussion of how much of the open space is upland. The plans indicate that 44.12 acres out of 58 acres open space is upland, and this seems to include the frontage on Tolend Road. John will check with Marcia on how much of the open space is considered upland and if there is a minimum required upland area for open space in a conservation subdivision. John will also check on why there is a change to the commercial lots with no open space indicated.
- f) Wilson property for sale (on Mendums, abuts Jeffrey and Brookwood Shores) Stephen Jeffery attended to update the group on the Wilson property and reported that there are no developments on a sale. He did share that there is a court case that would indicate the town cannot issue a building permit for a habitable structure with a right of way as the only access. It appears that there is an offer to buy the property being preferred.
- g) Easement monitoring (Ken) Ken will share at the next meeting.
- h) Calef property: what do we want to allow? (Alison and Pam) This will be covered when Pam is present.
- i) Goals for 2015
 - i) Conservation plan:
- 6)New Business:
 - j) Planning Board:
 - k) ZBA Dan reported that the ZBA asked for a continuation on the James property (Small Road) request for a variance.
 - l) NHACC meeting Nov. 7: reports from Anne, Ken, & John Ann shared background on the Wildlife Action Plan. The goal of the plan is to restore rare wildlife and habitats and keep common species common. There is information online that includes species and habitat profiles. John mentioned that the wildlife/habitat mapping is helpful when noting areas in town for conservation. Ken attended workshops on solar energy and site evaluation plans relating to making energy or moving energy. At the solar workshop it was pointed out how using solar power would support the environment as it relates to climate change.
 - m)Forest Laws workshop: John will share at the next meeting.
 - n)Town Common submissions. Dec. 1 is next deadline for submissions. Alison will be submitting information for big trees, and information for a moonlight snowshoe walk will also be submitted.
 - o)Dredge and Fill applications
 - p)Treasurer's report (Pam)
 - q)Legislative updates (Ken)
 - r)Start thinking about goals for 2016
- 7)Announcements/correspondence:
 - s)DES:
 - t)State champion witch hazel on SATWaSR
- 8)Other committees: Trails Committee, IRLAC, ORLAC

9)Easements:

u)Pat Newhall would like to expand her easement. This would add approx. 8 acres to the easement. It was suggested that the BCC could pay for the surveying fees involved.

v)Warren/Brasen Hill, Wallace/Benting, Littlefield/Thyng monitored While monitoring Brazen Hill John came across 4-wheeler tracks under the power lines. After discussion it was decided that there is no action that the CC can take at this time.

10)Next scheduled meeting: December 3, at Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC)

Items remaining on agenda, but not expected to be discussed at this meeting:

m) Conservation Projects:

i) “Bumfagging Hill” project (~1500 acres around Marsh Rd.)

ii) Barr property, 58 acres, Seavey Bridge Rd.

iii) Cook property

iv) Cullen Woods property – town has taken title to open space

n) Goals for 2015

i) Calef ‘roll-out’ to public, trail work, restoration, etc.

ii) Proposed changes to zoning, subdivision, etc. (Ken)

(1) Recommendations about wetland buffers

(2) Aquifer overlay district

Ken Grossman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05. Alison Desmarais seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of six (6) to zero (0) in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Lenzi

NOTE: THESE ARE SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES ONLY. A COMPLETE COPY OF THE MEETING AUDIO IS AVAILABLE AT THE LAND USE DEPARTMENT.