

MEETING MINUTES

Barrington Conservation Commission

May 5, 7:00 PM

Barrington Elementary School Conference Room, Rte. 125

PRESENT: John Wallace, Chair
Marika Wilde
Ken Grossman, Alternate
Alison Desmarais

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

CALL TO ORDER

Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair John Wallace called the meeting of May 5, 2016 to order at 7:00.

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

- 1) Sightings Ken had a weasel in his house. Also reported were sightings of hawks, a porcupine, kestrel, blue and gray gnatcatcher, snapping turtle, ruby-throated hummingbird, and possibly, blandings turtles.
- 2) Guests: Tracy Degnan, RCCD, NRCS -WRP restoration project, Ruth Dabrowski and Dan Ayer as a public citizen
 - a) Tracy is with the Rockingham County Conservation District and RCCD is working with the Natural Resouce Conservation Service on restoration projects. Tracy explained the culvert replacement to take place on the Calef property. She noted that this project is within the Isinglass corridor, but does not impact prime wetlands. The box culvert is designed for a 50 year storm event and designed to slow erosion. RCCD is waiting for comments from Fish and Game regarding the proposed gravel bottom which would allow for critter passage. It is anticipated the work will be done when the water flow is low, most probably in August. John mentioned that the Selectmen voted to have the parking installed in the lower

area, towards 202. **Ken Grossman made a motion to sign the permit copies for the culvert restoration work on the Calef Isinglass River Preserve.**

Marika Wilde seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) to zero (0) in favor. John signed the copies.

b) Dabrowski properties, Marsh Rd: owner would like to sell

John has contacted SELT to see if they would have an interest in this property as it is close to the Stonehouse Forest. Mrs. Dabrowski received various ideas from the group, with Ken suggesting she contact abutting property owners to see if they might have an interest.

3) Approval of minutes of April 21 This was tabled until next meeting.

4) Complaints: Marika complained of trash dumped into the swamp near her house. Dan offered to pick this up.

5) Old Business

a)Conservation Projects:

i. Calef Isinglass River Preserve: Parking area & improvement to Town Farm Road for access to Calef Preserve: threat of legal action by abutter Bud Kelsall The Selectmen have voted to put parking lot in closer to 202. It was mentioned that the lot is very wet, and Dave Allain has volunteered to do a wetland delineation. There was discussion about putting a trail in from the proposed parking lot to the main area.

ii. Barr property, 58 acres, Seavey Bridge Rd: now on market: SELT has applied for ARM funds to help with this. A local match would be needed.

b)Goals for 2016

i. Calef ‘roll-out’ to public, trail work, restoration, etc. –The group tentatively scheduled a “roll-out” for July 9.

ii. Conservation plan:

iii.Management plans for town properties

iv. Turtle crossings Alison is working on this.

v) Put on program(s) for education about wetlands

6)New Business:

a) SELT: request to renew our membership/support **Ken Grossman made a motion to expend \$200 to renew SELT membership. Alison Desmarais seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) to zero (0) in favor.**

b) NRCS: No logging operations on easements they hold from June 1 to July 31, due to Northern Long-eared bat (threatened species). Applies to Calef

c) Saving Special Places meeting reports (John) John attended a workshop on the updated model for conservation easement deeds. This model uses simpler language, and John suggested that this could serve as a new model easement for the town. The second workshop was about spicing up fund raising and gave ideas for raising money to close out a project with small amounts. Ken mentioned using a conservation photography contest as a way to raise funds.

- d) Rabbitat plantings (SATWaSR) May 21
- e) Verifying wetland delineations John has approached Mark West regarding providing second opinions on wetland delineations that are questioned, and Mark stated that he does do second opinions when requested. The commission will plan to do more site walks to detect any questionable wetlands deliniations.
- f) Cub Scout Trail cleanup: on Town Forest, next Monday at 6
- g) Planning Board:
- h) ZBA
- i) Dredge and Fill applications – see item 2a
- j) Treasurer's report (Pam)
- k) Legislative updates (Ken) Ken spoke about legislation to pass the language from [SB 492](#) -- a bill that would expand funds for town, city, and home efficiency projects.
- l) Newsky property off Carriage Run is approximately 30 acres that abuts SATWaSR
This can be discussed at a future meeting.

7)Announcements/correspondence:

a)DES:

8)Other committees: Trails Committee, IRLAC, ORLAC

9)Easements:

10)Next scheduled meeting: May 19

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

b) Conservation Projects:

- i. Stonehouse Forest
- ii. Cook property
- iii. Cullen Woods property – town has taken title to open space
- iv. Wilson property for sale (on Mendums, abuts Jeffrey and Brookwood Shores)

Ken Grossman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10. Marika Wilde seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of four (4) 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.