



APPROVED MINUTES
Brookfield Conservation Commission
Brookfield Town Hall Room 119
March 6, 2013
6:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: A. Dew called the meeting to order with the following people in attendance:

Present: A. Dew, Chair; R. Blessey, Vice Chair; S. Landis, Secretary & Treasurer; M. Carmody; M. Dew, J. Bronn

Absent: R. Manning; M. Murphy

Also Present: K. Yates; E. Cole Prescott, Recording Secretary

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 02/06/13: Minutes of previous meeting – **R. Blessey made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. M. Dew seconded the motion.** A. Dew noted that on page 3, on behalf of Indian Fields Homeowners Association, Lombardi should be Lombardo, page 4, spell Carmody correctly, were designated as voting members at this evening. **Motion carried unanimously.**

J. Bronn thanked the Commission for changing the meeting time to 6:00 PM.

III. GUEST AND PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: A. Dew noted that she had received some information from Bartlett Trees regarding the Nature Center. S. Landis will review the document.

V. TREASURER’S REPORT: S. Landis reported the current budget amount. S. Landis stated that she keeps a record of each house of what money is spent and what money is accrued. A. Dew stated that she has spoken with the Board of Finance regarding having someone take care of the homes. The Commission agreed that whoever is hired to complete maintenance on the homes should be paid hourly. A. Dew stated that she will work on this item.

A. Dew made a motion to add to old business Ferry Farm Conservation Easement and Indian Fields Pond. R. Blessey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

VI. CURRENT PROJECT REPORTS:

Nature Center – S. Landis stated that the work on the wall has not yet been done. M. Dew stated that there are many reports on the effects of roundup on organisms. M. Dew stated that on the whole this seems to be a safe chemical. K. Yates stated that this material persists in the soil. M. Dew stated that the outside range of toxicity was, at the most, 400 days according to the research that he had found.

Happy Landings – A. Dew stated that she needs to do a trail map of this property. R. Blessey asked if the mowing could not be done in the front.

Minutes – Conservation Commission – March 6, 2013

Burr Farm – M. Carmody stated that J. Sivo will come to the next meeting to discuss fertilizing up at the farm. M. Carmody stated that she would like to make the path a bit wider.

Williams/Gurski – M. Dew stated that there was cutting being done yesterday on this property. He stated that he believes that the Parks and Recreation Department was doing the work.

Junction Road – M. Dew mentioned that he has one quote from Val Carroll regarding removing the siding, re-sheathing, new windows and sliding glass doors for \$22,900 and \$2,300 for insulation if needed. M. Dew noted that he will be getting two other quotes for this work as well. S. Landis and M. Dew noted that they will be in contact to work out a time to discuss this property.

Gurski Homestead – A. Dew noted that there was a meeting for the grant application that this Commission had submitted this morning in Hartford, which the Commission was not aware of until last night. A. Dew was not able to attend the meeting because of the delayed notice of the meeting.

- **Garden:** R. Blessey stated that within six weeks much of this work needs to be done, and R. Blessey has been in touch with George Waltz. R. Blessey is working on the garden coordination.

Eriksen Farm – M. Dew stated that he had walked Eriksen with M. Carmody today. M. Dew stated that he believes that the siding is not in bad shape, but that a few clapboards need to be replaced. He believes that the siding can be painted. There is a bit of maintenance needed, and the roof on the main part of the house looks like it needs to be re-done. M. Dew stated that at one point the roof might have been replaced on one side but not on the other due to a fire. There is a stump that needs to be ripped out and ground down. R. Blessey stated that George is going to pull it and grade it to re-do the parking area. S. Landis will contact George Waltz regarding this project. M. Dew also mentioned that there is a spruce in the corner of the road that needs to be taken down. M. Dew stated that there are a few projects to do including removing some of the barbed wire, which could be a bit dangerous, and a trail up to the elementary school would also be a good project. M. Dew noted that there is a garden out there with many piles of wood chips near it. A. Dew stated that M. Murphy is in charge of the garden. A. Dew suggested that M. Dew get in contact with M. Murphy regarding this garden. M. Carmody and M. Dew mentioned some of the other items out at the property in relation to this garden. K. Yates stated that the object of this garden was to donate the produce to social services. M. Carmody stated that she and M. Dew have also looked at the fence line, which could be improved. M. Carmody stated that perhaps it would be good to start from the front and work to the back of the property. R. Blessey stated that the horses from across the street come over to that property. A. Dew mentioned that she has started working on a map for the property. M. Carmody will work with A. Dew on the history of the property.

Deer Management – no report.

America the Beautiful Grant – A. Dew mentioned that the Conservation Commission will be planting trees and completing the grant project on April 21, 2013. M. Dew asked about the Bluebird Day Event. A. Dew mentioned that she believes that this event will be held on the following weekend. A. Dew suggested that there should be a limited number of houses available, and S. Landis added that there should be one per family given out. M. Dew stated that there is minimal expense between making 50 and making 100 kits for the Bluebird houses.

Trail Day – June 1st – Williams Park- A. Dew noted that BOSLI is doing a trail walk in the morning on the same day.

7.a. Indian Fields – A. Dew noted that the Selectmen have tabled their review of this pond until the next meeting, and she will walk the property on Friday with them.

Minutes – Conservation Commission – March 6, 2013

7.b. Ferry Farm – A. Dew and the Conservation Commission agreed to send a letter to the Planning Commission regarding the approval of the conservation easement.

New Business: There was a brief overview of the project, Green Hills, as per the Planning Commission's February 21 meeting minutes.

Adjourn: **R. Blessey made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 PM. M. Dew seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2013.