



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

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** A. Dew called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM and established a quorum of members:
Present: Alice Dew, Chair; Ryan Blessey, Vice Chair; Stephanie Landis, Secretary & Treasurer; Mac Dew, Marj Carmody, Jeffrey Bronn
Absent: Mike Murphy; Ralph Manning
Also Present: Kim Yates; Emily Cole Prescott, Recording Secretary
2. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: 10/02/13 – M. Dew moved to approve the minutes of last month’s meeting. M. Carmody seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.**
3. **GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no guests at this meeting.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no correspondence at this meeting.
5. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** S. Landis reported that there is \$3,750.18 remaining in the budget. S. Landis stated that the Audubon membership has now been paid for a few years.
6. **CURRENT PROJECT REPORTS:**
 - Nature Center: S. Landis stated that everything looks good thanks to the work that G. Waltz has done. She mentioned that the floor of the garage will be done in the Spring. K. Yates signed the lease for the Nature Center, which is a two-year lease that will end in 2015. K. Yates stated that she will submit her certificate of insurance to the Town. S. Landis stated that she and K. Yates will be working on a list of ongoing projects for K. Yates to complete in the upcoming months. The Commission discussed the number of hours per week and month discussed when K. Yates had signed the original lease. A. Dew and S. Landis discussed the amount of rent that was collected at the different residences owned by the Conservation Commission. M. Carmody stated that she believed that K. Yates was to complete a day a week of work. K. Yates suggested that she could do some weeding and planting. S. Landis suggested that the Commission draft a list of items that should be completed.

R. Blessey left the meeting room at 6:22 PM. J. Bronn entered the meeting room at 6:22 PM.

- Happy Landings – Jeffrey Bronn stated that he was planning to help with Williams Gurski and not the Happy Landings. A. Dew stated that she has received some calls about kids rolling the haybales down the hill. A. Dew stated that she believes that Billy Stuart will most likely leave the haybales there. A. Dew stated that she will call Billy Stuart to ask him to attend the next meeting regarding this matter. A. Dew stated that she believed that M. Murphy had the names of potential farmers.
- Burr Farm – M. Carmody stated that there is much dog walking and there have been many people flying planes. A. Dew suggested that the Commission install a sign so that more residents are aware of the Burr Farm location.

The Commission moved back to discussion about the Nature Center.

- Nature Center – K. Yates suggested that an interior directional sign be installed to direct people to the parking location at the Nature Center. S. Landis will work on this project with G. Waltz. M. Dew mentioned that he does not think that there should be much confusion with the parking lot location. S. Landis suggested that the information board be turned around so the parking location is a bit more obvious. A. Dew agreed that an interior directional arrow sign be installed.

The Commission returned to their discussion of the Burr Farm.

- Burr Farm – A. Dew stated that she and M. Carmody were to look at the other open space signs to determine if the signs should remain consistent with the other open space signs. A. Dew told M. Carmody that S. Landis would have the information for the creation and installation of the signs. A. Dew noted that she believes that the signs should remain consistent with other open space signs. M. Carmody noted that this purchase would be for a sign that would indicate “Burr Farm Open Space”. M. Dew suggested that the signage be incorporated with the kiosk. M. Carmody is also in the process of getting a memorial rock in memory of her parents for the site.
- Williams/Gurski Open Space – J. Bronn stated that he has noticed on the Gurski side of the property that two of the benches are in disrepair and there are some benches on site that are in need of some care. M. Dew stated that there are a variety of benches throughout the site. M. Dew stated that there are bench kits stored in the buildings. J. Bronn asked if more pictures could be added to the website. J. Bronn stated that someone had asked him if the Commission could have access to the location of where the Route 7 extension was located, which is the quarry area next to the highway. J. Bronn asked if there is public access to that land. A. Dew stated that this area is state-owned property. A. Dew stated that there is no place to walk or install trails. A. Dew asked if J. Bronn would like to view a map of the property.
- Gurski Homestead – A. Dew stated that she had been asked by the Arbor Day Foundation to have the trees weeded and mulched. A. Dew stated that F. Lollie had done this work. A. Dew suggested that the Commission keep F. Lollie in mind to hire for other types of work around Town.

J. Bronn left the meeting room at 6:44 PM.

- 18 Junction Road – S. Landis stated that she has spoken with the tenant because she believes that the Commission needs to do a walk-through of the property.

The Commission moved back to discussion of the Gurski Homestead.

- Gurski Homestead - A. Dew stated that the structural engineer is almost finished with his evaluation of the Gurski Homestead. A. Dew noted that he has a December 1st deadline for the presentation of his findings. All of the outbuildings, the barn and the

front house except for the basement of the front house will be evaluated by this engineer. The lease has been signed for this rental house.

- Eriksen Farm Open Space – M. Dew stated that he has meant to discuss some of these matters with M. Carmody. The trees have been taken down but are in the middle of the woods. Jeremy Carlson does mostly climbing but he does tree work. He will also take away trees that he cuts down. A. Dew stated that the arborists generally need enough work for the day to come out to work. A. Dew asked S. Landis about a bill she had received from Bartlett for spraying, and S. Landis responded that the company comes out to spray occasionally. S. Landis suggested that A. Dew call Eric to discuss this matter. M. Dew stated that he had Steve Turco, a local painter and carpenter, look at the house at Eriksen. The roof work needs more immediate care than the siding. There are holes in the siding. The holes need to be covered. M. Dew suggested that either he will go over to volunteer or perhaps the Commission could hire F. Lollie to patch the areas in the worst shape. Kenny Aiello has been out to also evaluate the roof. His suggestion is to rip off the entire roof, install new flashing, new boots, and this quote is for \$6,200. M. Dew stated that for the amount of labor and materials involved, this is a great price. M. Carmody stated that the roofing had been done before, and M. Dew noted that this price is very reasonable. **A. Dew made a motion to approve the re-roofing of 8 Nabby Road for Aiello Roofing to re-roof according to this estimate #590.** There was some discussion of whether this quote includes the garage roof. **M. Carmody seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.** M. Dew stated that there are two basic options for siding – vinyl and repair the existing wood siding, replace corner boards, kick boards that are rotten, windows, install new window casings, sand and paint the siding. Sanding and painting with some minor repairs would be approximately \$15,000 while the vinyl siding would be approximately \$25,000. A. Dew suggested that the Commission look into what type of details may be added to give the house a bit more personality. S. Landis stated that landscaping could also be done. M. Dew stated that this matter is something for the Commissioners to consider over the winter months.
- Deer Management – M. Dew stated that he has not yet received any kill reports.

7. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

8. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** **A. Dew made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 PM. S. Landis seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.**