



Canterbury Conservation Commission
Canterbury, NH 03224

Meeting House -7 p.m.
June 14, 2010

Minutes

Present: Tom Osmer, Jen Taylor, Bob and Linda Fife , Galen Beale, Teresa Wyman

Absent: Kelly Short, Fred Ficken, Dan Sperduto, Jim Bassett

Jen appointed Linda and Teresa as voting members.

1) Approval of May Minutes

Minutes were approved with corrections on a motion by Jen, seconded by Linda. All voted in favor.

2) Horseshoe Pond – Resource Reserve Zone – Septic Complaint - Jen

An incomplete septic system violation was reported to the CCC and DES. The latter will look into the matter to verify the complaint. Because Horseshoe Pond is in the Resource Reserve Zone, the Commission will monitor this situation to ensure the pond's water quality is not disturbed. A discussion followed about the DES reporting process.

3) Riverland Gated Access – Jen & Galen

Jen, Galen, Tom Osmer went to the Selectmen meeting last week to discuss the Riverland gate situation. The locking of the gate has become a problem and visitors to the beach area are becoming a problem as well.

Jen reported the upshot of the meeting was that the Selectmen will pass a no parking after sunset ordinance which the police will then be able to enforce. It was emphasized that the parking lot rules need to be clearly stated as well as the procedure to follow when there are violations. This will require further discussion with the police once the new signs are up. It was suggested that cutting some trees to have a better view of the parking lot would help with enforcement and Commission members will drive by to see what they think of this suggestion.

A discussion followed about how to create consistency in opening and locking this conservation land gate. Weekends were thought to be important and the members brainstormed ways to have someone other than the Town do this work. Members will follow up these suggestions, and report to the Selectmen the best ideas.

4) Stewardship Committee – Tom

The Stewardship Committee has been working on how to create a better working beaver prevention device for Kimball Pond. After talking to a beaver expert from Vermont, the Committee asked Fred to order a new DVD on how to construct a Beaver Prevention Device.

The DVD is currently being passed among the CCC members. Those who have seen it, felt that we could have a work day and get it done. Bob, who has been keeping the Kimball Pond Dam clear of debris reported that he and the beavers were currently at a standoff. All felt we should construct this new device by fall. Jen gave the Stewardship Committee the go ahead to complete this project. Tom is gathering prices.

5) Update on Upper Oxbow Project - Jen

Jen reported that Mike Speltz of the Forest Society had contacted her about the closing for the Upper Merrimack Oxbow project. He felt that things were coming together, but there remained many details to work on. He hopes for a closing date within the month. The final financing has not been finalized as yet.

6) Update on Golf Course Easement – Jen

The Conservation Easement for the Canterbury Woods Golf course has been signed by the Selectmen and the CCC. This easement has been in process since 2004. A copy will be put in the CCC files.

7) Update on Boles Easement – Jen

Jen had asked Jim Snyder where this Easement is in the process. Jim was not sure and said no building permits had been issued for this development as yet. There is a draft easement in Mr. Boles possession, but it has not been signed as yet.

8) VLAP Testing for this Year – Jen

Water testing was discussed. There are no water testing trainings in our area. We have \$650.00 for water testing and each tests costs \$70.00. It is recommended that a pond be tested three times a year. To date we have been testing Horseshoe, Kimball and Sherwood Forest Ponds. A discussion followed about which ponds to test and how to best use our testing money. It was felt that the neighborhoods surrounding Canterbury's ponds could be educated to do the testing and perhaps defray some of the costs. Ollie Fifield was used as an example of someone who tests the water in his pond regularly so that he is sure it is safe for swimming. We would like to encourage others to do so as well. This year we will offer \$210.00 to Sherwood Forest for water testing. This year we will also fund one water test for Horseshoe Pond, Bob will test Kimball Pond and the remaining monies will be spent on doing one water test at Forest Pond and one at Morrill Pond. Stephanie Bowser was suggested as someone who could help us with this work.

9) Web Content Management Solutions - Tom

Tom reported on two contacts who thought it would not be difficult for the CCC to create its own webpage. While there are many programs, Jen suggested Microsoft "Front Page"

10) Other Business

Jen reported that if Galen sends the minutes to Jan, she will put them on the Town's website.

Bob reported that the Town receives 2 Elm trees every year that he plants. He is looking for suggestions for placement, perhaps in a conservation area.

Bob continues to eradicate the Poison Ivy along the access to Hildreth Field. He feels he has a 95% success rate so far.

Bob asked that there be a "no Campfire" sign put in the Kimball Pond parking lot.

Mrs. Cushman trained Bob to inoculate the center Elm Tree. Bob continues these duties and will train others.

Teresa reported that Sunday, August 22nd is the date for the Fiddler's Picnic, Jen will do publicity.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 on a motion by Jen and seconded by Bob. All voting in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Galen Beale, Acting Secretary