



Canterbury Conservation Commission
Canterbury, NH 03224

Minutes of the Meeting

September 9, 2013

Present: Kelly Short, Jen Taylor, Fred Ficken, Galen Beale, Tom Osmer, Ken Stern, Bob Fife, Chris Blair, Linda Fife, Faith Berry, Teresa Wyman at 8:22.

Guests: Ty Miller briefly

1. Permit Notices

a. NH Speedway – Wetlands and non-site specific permit 2009-02443.

Approval to fill additional 2,800 sq. ft. of ditched forested wetlands to accommodate emergency vehicles. Map 26/Lot 4.

b. Mourning Dove Holdings – Wetland Program Notification. Returned as incomplete. Map 210/Lots 8, 8.1, 8.2.

2. 4-H Bench proposal – Jen

The 4-H Club is proposing to build a stone bench and would like to place it by Kimball Pond. The Commission was very pleased with the suggestion that will no doubt enhance the site. Several sites were suggested and one will be selected with the 4-H members.

3. Easement monitoring update – Kelly and Tom

The Selectmen have approved a contract with Chris Kane to monitor the selected easements and provide written reports. Tom Osmer will check in with Chris periodically and report his progress to the Commission. Chris expects to be working until the end of May, 2014.

4. Therrien Easement

This easement was finalized last Friday. The property is on Ames Road, off Route 106, and has been beautifully managed for many years and the Commission is excited that Fiver Rivers Conservation Trust and the Therrien's have closed on this easement. It is 118 acres and the easement will be held by the Five Rivers Conservation Trust. Ned has generously offered to take the Commission on a walk about of the property, and the Commission came up with several dates to propose to Ned.

5. Tree Cutting – Tom

Tom went on a walk about on Hackleboro Road to view the proposed trees to be cut. He felt the trees were conservatively marked on the Scenic Road and the proposal reasonable.

31 **6. Interpretation letter for Meeh Easement – Kelly**

32 The Commission reviewed a letter Kelly had written in consultation with others. Fred congratulated
33 her on the letter. She has passed the draft before the Selectmen and will complete the letter and
34 get it to the Meehs.

35 **7. Preliminary discussions of intersection improvements at Kimball Pond and Morrill Roads**

36 There will be a meeting with all concerned to discuss how to make this road intersection more user
37 friendly.

38 **8. Robert S. Fife Conservation Area [RSFCA]**

- 39 a. In an ongoing discussion with the Selectmen about reserving an area along Kimball Pond
40 Road for improving safety, access and scenic viewing quality, the Selectmen and the
41 Commission agreed on a new approach. The Commission will be proposing an easement on
42 the field property at the 2014 Town Meeting, and in order to define the property borders,
43 the Commission proposed to locate three points on the east end of the field, 12 feet in from
44 the edge of the road, allowing for the curve. This line will be surveyed and become the
45 eastern easement border. All the land to the west will be under easement, all the land to
46 the east will be available for improvements for scenic viewing, access and safety.

47
48 Linda stated that she hoped if anything were one on the 12 foot area in the future that the
49 existing stone wall would be moved and rebuilt.

50
51 Kelly will confer with the Forest Society and let them know of this change to the original
52 easement proposal and how we hope to resolve the issue of an area for future
53 improvements for safety, access and scenic viewing quality.

- 54 b. Field Mowing. Once again the Commission wishes to express its gratitude to Briggs
55 Lockwood for mowing the RSFCA field. He has begun and will continue to work on it. Briggs
56 is joined in this effort by Eric Hauptman, who will also fit in some field mowing into his busy
57 schedule. Faith Berry said that if Bob Fife and her son, Martin Berard, could get together to
58 review what could be mowed with their boom mower, she and Martin could work on
59 clearing out the corners and close to the walls of the field. Bob will be on site to help define
60 the areas to be mowed. Bob treated the recently cut stumpage to prevent regrowth. Ken
61 Stern reported that he had mowed the Apple Orchard section of the abutting Kimball Pond
62 Conservation Area.

63 The RSFCA could not be maintained without the help of the many volunteers and the
64 Commission is so pleased that so many people have stepped up to help with the work. This
65 field gives all of us a brief glimpse of New Hampshire as it used to be as we drive back and
66 forth to town. Thank you all.⁴

- 67 c. **Siting of the Robert S. Fife dedication Bench.** Jen and Faith will work together to find a
68 spot for this stone bench. Fred will also join the group.

69 **9. Approval of the Minutes of the August, 2013.**

70 On a Motion from Tom, seconded by Ken, the minutes were approved unanimously as
71 amended. The Commission agreed to delete Item 6 in the draft minutes as this list represents
72 only part of an ongoing discussion which may change over time.

73 **10. Open Space Planning.**

74 The Commission spent the remainder of the meeting reviewing town-owned properties
75 represented on a colored town map produced by Tom Osmer. Tom created a spread sheet of all
76 these properties and they were reviewed one by one to assess their conservation importance.
77 Chris Blair said he had been down to the Canoe Lunch property, and found the parking lot full,
78 indication it was well used.

79
80 Kelly will try to get this digitized tax map colored digitally so we will have the ability to overlay
81 other maps created by other agencies. Tom suggested we prioritize our properties that need
82 additional information and begin that process. We identified four properties that we will look at
83 in depth: Schoodac; Misery Road; Rocky Pond; Mountain Road/Showshoe Hill and Sawyer's
84 Ferry Road. We will ask for proposals from several people to do a biological inventory on these
85 properties.

86
87 Motion by Jen, seconded by Galen to ask for proposals for a natural resources inventory to be
88 done on four town owned properties. All voted in favor.

- 89 **11. Finances.** Fred reviewed the Commission's financial report generated by the Town. Kelly
90 reminded us that the \$2,000 we had committed to completing the Therrien Easement will come
91 out of the Change of Use Tax.

92
93 Meeting adjourned at 9:25

94
95 Respectfully submitted,
96 Galen Beale, Secretary