

Enfield Conservation Commission Meeting
June 4, 2015
Public Works Facility, Enfield

Present: Shirley Green; Sue Hagerman; Dwight Marchetti; Alan Strickland, Chairman; Jerold Theis; Paula Gillen, recorder.

Guest: John Taylor, Upper Valley Trails Alliance

Chairman Strickland called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

The list of current Conservation Commission members and their term expiration dates was reviewed. Alan Strickland has been reappointed to a new term but not yet sworn in. Thus, he is unable to vote at tonight's meeting.

Review of May 2015 minutes: The sentence reading “The area of septic involvement is a small percentage of the property but is located on a portion the public *could potentially access*” will be changed to “The area of septic involvement is a small percentage of the property but is located on a portion the public *is accessing*.” The sentence “That side of the mountain seeps all year round” will be deleted. A motion was made by Marchetti to accept the minutes as amended. This was seconded by Hagerman and the motion was approved. The Chairman abstained.

May events: Strickland reviewed construction of the Harris Brook parking lot. Alan's Signs made the signs for Harris Brook but required prepayment, which Strickland provided. A motion was made by Marchetti to reimburse Alan Strickland \$600 which he prepaid to Alan's Signs for the Harris Brook signage. This was seconded by Green and the motion was approved. The Chairman abstained. Marchetti suggested putting hard pack on the lot, which will help with runoff and erosion, improving the parking lot and making it more stable. This will be revisited at August's meeting with a cost estimate for the proposed work.

Trail Work Day: Work on the Harris Brook trail is scheduled for June 13, 2015 starting at 10 a.m. Strickland will notify the Canaan Conservation Commission and request their help. Commission members will assist.

Old Home Days: Old Home Days are scheduled for July 24-26. Green has signed the Conservation Commission up. The hike will be at the Harris Brook Scenic Area around the reservoir at 1 p.m. on July 26. Carpooling will be available from the Enfield Community Building to the hike site.

Lakeview Condominium: Dr. Theis reviewed the reported results of water samples taken from Lakeview Condominium. That study showed the surface water is contaminated. The level of contamination is within EPA allowable limits.

Solar Panels: Mr. Marchetti received a call from a citizen concerned about the visual impact of the proposed installation of solar panels on South Main Street. The caller would like the Commission to discuss this matter and decide if this is a conservation issue. Per Strickland, the Town Manager, Steve Schneider, stated this issue will be coming before the Zoning Board regarding the need for a variance. Hagerman moved that this is not a conservation issue. Theis seconded. The motion was approved. The Chairman abstained.

John Taylor, Upper Valley Trails Alliance: Taylor sought the support of the Commission in preserving the Moose Mountain Ridge Trail, which has its lower section in Enfield and its upper section in Hanover. The Quabbin-to-Cardigan Partnership is a collaborative effort of more than 20 private organizations and public agencies including the Upper Valley Land Trust and Hanover Conservancy who are working on land conservation in the Q2C area, which includes the Moose Mountain Ridge Trail. Taylor would like the Commission to join the preservation efforts of the Partnership and other groups such as the Hanover Conservation Commission Trails Committee. Taylor stressed the importance of working with landowners to determine the feasibility of having the corridor a conserved trail in the future and requested the Commission's assistance in opening a dialogue with Enfield property owners on whose land the trail resides. In Enfield the trail crosses the property of one landowner, the Joneses, as well as a class 6 road, and the Joneses already permit hiking and skiing. Taylor requested the Commission provide a letter of support for the project. This will assist the Upper Valley Trails Alliance in securing grant funding to further the trail preservation efforts. Hagerman moved that the Enfield Conservation Commission draft a letter of support for the Quabbin-to-Cardigan Moose Mountain Ridge Trail in Enfield. Green seconded the motion and the motion passed. Strickland abstained. Strickland will draft the letter and present it for review at August's Commission meeting.

Wildlife Report: Bear scat found near a home. Bear sighting.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 6, 2015 at 7 p.m.

A motion was made by Marchetti to adjourn. This was seconded by Theis and approved. The Chairman abstained. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.