

Enfield Conservation Commission
Public Works Facility, Enfield
Minutes of August 6, 2015

Present: Gary Gaudette; Shirley Green; Jeanine King; Dwight Marchetti; Alan Strickland, Chairman; Jerold Theis; Paula Gillen, recorder

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

Review of June 4, 2015 minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Marchetti to approve the minutes. Dr. Theis seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

Harris Brook Scenic Area:

Mr. Strickland stated Commission activity in June and July focused on the Harris Brook Scenic Area. He noted one loon continues to be in residence on the reservoir. The Loon Preservation Society is interested in monitoring loon activity here. Mr. Strickland also saw a beaver, two blue herons feeding and a family of Canada geese. Approximately 10 people participated in the hike during Old Home Days. The area is a beautiful spot and quite an accomplishment for the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Marchetti spoke with neighbors to see what kind of impact the Harris Brook Scenic Area has had on them. Other than one occasion when a person parked next to the 'no parking' sign, the neighbors relate no problems. Putting in a parking lot and adding signs seems to have deterred undesirable activity.

Reapply for Inventory Grant (September 25):

Mr. Strickland will meet with Steve Schneider.

New Business:

Culvert at Harris Brook Parking:

There is a problem with the culvert. Although Mr. Strickland has cleared it out more than once, it is again a quarter filled with silt and will need to be cleared out in the fall. Mr. Marchetti suggested since the culvert is located in Canaan the Highway Department of the Town of Canaan accepts responsibility for it and they could address further problems.

Harris Brook Parking Hardtop:

Mr. Marchetti measured the parking lot; it is 3500 sq ft. He received a quote from Lebanon Crushed Stone for hard pack of \$11/ton. For coverage over the entire lot 3 inches thick, roughly 49-50 tons would be required, costing \$540-\$600 plus an additional \$17.25/ton for delivery. Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works, stated the Town will put in delineators where the culverts are. Mr. Marchetti received agreement from the Selectmen to use Town trucks, 3 trucks in 1 trip, to deliver the material. Mr. Marchetti spoke with Paul Currier, who agreed to spread the material at no charge.

Ms. King made a motion to purchase 50 tons of hard pack not to exceed \$700 to finish the Harris Brook Scenic Area parking lot. Mr. Marchetti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Marchetti will arrange for this work to be done in the fall.

Mr. Marchetti suggested closing the parking lot in the fall to prevent undesirable visitors. This could be done by running a cable from tree to tree across the entrance. The Commission will monitor the site this winter to see if there are any issues. Next year the Commission could also consider putting in a picnic table or perhaps benches.

More Signage for Harris Brook Scenic Area:

Mr. Strickland spoke of the need for additional signage at the Harris Brook Scenic Area to help delineate the trail and recommended obtaining 4 small signs to mark the trail.

Ms. King made a motion to approve \$100 for 4 Harris Brook Scenic Area trail signs. Mr. Marchetti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The need for an additional sign designating the parking area was discussed.

Dr. Theis made a motion to purchase a "Harris Brook Parking" sign with the cost not to exceed \$200. Mr. Marchetti seconded the motion. Ms. King abstained. The motion passed.

Colette Trail Parking Area:

Mr. Strickland stated the Colette Trail parking area is muddy in the Spring. He will ask the Town to address this. Mr. Marchetti suggested gravel could be brought in.

Motel Property Involvement: A member of the Ad Hoc Committee has brush hogged this land, cutting close to lake. The area will be topped with wood chips. Discussion ensued regarding concerns over maintaining the 50-ft buffer to the lake. The Town will stake this buffer area.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 3, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Mr. Marchetti moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Ms. King seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion, meeting adjourned.