

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 12, 2013
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

Committee Members Present: Dave Connolly, Scott Kobbe, Tyler Smith, Randy Orvis,
Richard Ballou

Committee Members Excused: Sarah Cantwell and Art LeClair

Committee Members Absent: Josh Carlsen

Selectmen's Representative: Jim Horgan

Public Present: Rodney Thompson, Neil Johnson, Mr. Chamberlain,
Savannah Kinsley, Ron Kinsley and Camille Craycraft

At 6:30pm, Chairman Dave Connolly opened the meeting.

1. Public Comment:

none

2. Review of Minutes:

*Jim Horgan motioned to accept the May 8, 2013 minutes as amended, 2nd Richard Ballou.
Motion carried with all in favor*

3. Meet and Greet with the Barry Camp Recipient:

Scott explained that the Commission is excited to offer this scholarship for Savannah Kinsley to attend Barry Camp this summer. Savannah and her grandfather, Ron Kinsley thanked the Commission for the great opportunity. Savannah explained that she is hoping to learn more about recycling at camp and she enjoys being outside. Jim expressed that the Commission would like her to come back after the camp and tell them about her experience. Scott also thanked the guidance department for their help with the process. Mr. Kinsley thanked the Commission for the opportunity for his granddaughter noting she is very excited.

4. Discussion with Lori Sommer of DES:

Dave informed the Commission that Lori is unable to attend tonight's meeting. However, he did receive feedback from the Town Administrator regarding the monitoring of the Energy Resources Group easement. This letter to the Commission states that he has determined that there is nothing further for the Commission to do besides the annual monitoring and that the Commission should let NHDES continue with their efforts to enforce the easement. Also, ERG

is proposing a land swap where they would like to take over the current easement and in turn would give the town a different parcel. Randy commented that he is not sure NHDES is aware the current easement area was disturbed prior to the easement donation. He also believes it would be nice to swap for an area that has not been previously disturbed but he is not sure about the area they are proposing and would like to be able to walk the area first. Dave stated that he is concerned about what would happen with the abutting Class III wetlands if the parcels were swapped. Neil Johnson asked if the swap would be an opportunity to remove the monitoring and Dave replied probably. The Commission was in consensus that they oppose a land swap unless a significant resource would be conserved with the new parcel and the current wetlands buffer issue is addressed.

5. Trip #4 with Rodney Thompson:

Mr. Thompson stated that he would like to visit the markers at the north corner of Farmington and Middleton and the marker between Farmington and Milton. He is estimating the trip to take 3-4 hours. Dave will contact the landowners to get permission to cross their land.

6. Old Business:

A. Water Testing Training - Dave stated that Sarah, Richard and himself attended a training a few weeks ago on the water testing materials with Lorie Chase. He will notify the Commission when they are going to go out again and do another test.

B. Leadership Day at Valley View - Dave informed the members that he and Sarah attended the Leadership Day at Valley View and had a great time. While there he was given several thank you letters from the students for the trees the Commission planted for Arbor Day.

C. Hay Day - Dave reminded the members that they previously discussed having a woodsmen team “perform” at Hay Day. He contacted the UNH woodsmen team and they are very excited to participate. Some things they can do are speed sawing and chopping. Dave would like to invite the Coach and his assistant to attend the next meeting and see the Municipal Parking Lot to make sure the spot would fit. Also, Strafford Rivers Conservancy and Moose Mountain Regional Greenways is eager to participate. Scott reminded everyone that Sarah previously suggested a goldfish race. Scott will follow up with Savannah Kinsley to see if she can put together a display of her experience at Barry Camp. Mr. Chamberlain suggested Tyler possibly put together a watershed display.

D. Whittum Refund - Dave informed the members that the Commission received a check for \$2065 as a refund from the grant for the Whittum Easement project.

E. French and Dubois Property – Dave reminded the Commission that he would like to get started on establishing the trails, kiosks and parking lots at the French and Dubois properties. Randy stated that he will be in the area for his job and will try to do some exploring to find

appropriate trail areas. It was then discussed that the kiosks should be built and installed sooner than later and then reviewed the plans for the accepted types of kiosks. ***Jim Horgan motioned to put a RFP for three new standard (8/16/02) kiosks to be constructed and installed for the French and Dubois properties and the Town Forest, 2nd Randy Orvis. Motion carried with all in favor.***

It was discussed that the blue trail markers would be great to use as trail markers. Trail Lite markers are 3” and come in packs of 100 for \$100 from Forestry Suppliers Inc. Dave will do some research to see what other types of trail markers there are. Mr. Chamberlain stated that once the trails are established he would like to assist students to find resources of note on long the trails to mark.

The parking lots were discussed. Randy stated that the River Rd. lot probably needs a culvert at the entrance. Both lots need gravel and Jim suggested Dave speak with the town administrator to see if the town can assist with the leveling up the lots and creating a solid base.

F. Randy stated he went down to the Flume this past weekend and all the rocks were covered with graffiti and a bunch of trash was left around a fire pit. Dave stated that he and Jim also saw this and photographed the mess and forwarded it to the Strafford Rivers Conservancy so they can follow up. SRC is thinking of running an ad in Foster’s to educate the public on this type of vandalism.

G. Dave reported that someone dumped a couch and recliner at the Dubois property entrance and he pulled the surveillance camera and the police were able to make an arrest. Also, another recliner was discovered just today.

H. Randy stated that the orange flagging on River Rd. previously discussed was for the researching of possible future water resources that the Selectmen have tasked as a project.

7. New Business:

A. Rivers 101 Presentation – How a River Works and the Mad River Restoration Project presentation is next Wednesday, June 19th here in the Selectmen’s Chambers from 7-9pm.

8. FYI:

A. Dave announced that the Commission received a \$200 donation from Camille Craycraft tonight.

At 8:14pm, Jim Horgan motioned to adjourn, 2nd Randy Orvis. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger

Amended and accepted 7-10-13

Recording Secretary