

Jaffrey Conservation Commission Minutes Draft

Meeting held at Town Offices February 24, 2016

Present: Carolyn D. Garretson, Chair, Pam Armstrong, Nora Barton Bryant, Michael George, William Graf, Charles Koch, Elizabeth Webster, Recorder, Patricia Weiner

Tom Rothermel (Select Board Rep)

Regrets: Nan Beiter, Francis McBride

Absent: Matthew Amadon

Guests: Welch Narron, Director Mass. Audubon's Wildwood Camp, Peggy Ueta

I. The meeting convened 7PM. Guests were introduced.

II. Welch Narron spoke regarding the scholarship provided by the Conservation Commission and the Camp, funding a local student for a week of camp. He proposes that Wildwood contribute \$900.00, the Conservation Commission contribute \$175.00, and the family of the camper pay the annual Membership Fee of \$65.00. This amount is significantly reduced by paying prior to May, and may be further reduced by an increased payment by the JCC, in the event of hardship. Bill Graf will take the Wildwood brochures to the Elementary and Middle Schools to give to the Science Teachers to try to identify a suitable student between 9-12 years of age.

III. The minutes of the last meeting were approved, as amended. Michael George will post the minutes to the website, bringing them up to date.

IV. Financial status is unchanged from last month.

V. Ongoing Items

A. The owners of the Grey Goose easement met with CDG and BG to discuss the infractions noted in the monitoring report. The owners acknowledge the infractions and will rectify them this summer. A letter confirming this understanding was sent to the owners by CDG. Follow-up monitoring is recommended to be scheduled in September. A motion was approved to fund Jeff Littleton's follow-up monitoring and documentation of the site.

B. Open Space Subcommittee report - The subcommittee is still in the process of recruiting members.

C. Bobcat hearing at Fish and Game – CDG, PA, and FMcB attended the Fish and Game hearing in Concord on February 1, to voice the Commission's opposition to the hunt and trapping.

D. Rick Brackett provided a draft of the trail map of the Cheshire Pond Conservation

Area. A section of trail now running across private land needs to be re-routed within the boundaries of the CPCA. Once this is done, the file can be modified. MG and CK will follow up to make the necessary changes. Peggy Ueta has volunteered to help with trail clearing.

E. A portion of the funds for Children's Woods and Carey Park will be spent replacing the broken plexiglass and providing new brochures.

F. School Board property - CDG has written a letter to the Committee investigating the property, proposing a joint venture with the School District and the Rindge Conservation Commission, placing part or all of the 100 acres in conservation with the intent of using it for educational purposes. Brian Hotz of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests was supportive of school/ conservation collaborations. CDG may ask him to meet with the School Board or subcommittee. A motion was approved for the JCC to demonstrate continued interest in and support of the project.

G. Mail was reviewed, members are reminded to register for Saving Special Places.

IV. Tom Rothermel has completed his term on the Select Board, and will no longer serve as its representative on the JCC. He would like to continue to serve as a Member. CDG will submit a letter to the Select Board, recommending him for membership.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM. The next meeting will be held on March 23, 7PM at the Town Offices.