

New Boston Conservation Commission (NBCC)

Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2013

Members In Attendance: Burr Tupper, Rebecca Balke, Laura Bernard, Gerry Cornett, Tom Morgan, Mark Debowski, Barbara Thompson, Amy Elkes-Simon

Members Absent: Jay Webber, Mike DePetrillo

Guests In Attendance: None

Secretary's Report: The members reviewed the draft May 2013 minutes. Barbara made some amendments. Gerry moved to approve the minutes as amended. Laura seconded the motion. All approved.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca reported the account totals \$627,972.87 with the Open Space portion at \$382,195.20. Laura moved to approve the treasurer's report. Gerry seconded the motion. All approved.

Rail Trail Updates: Burr spoke to Rail Trail Committee member Lee Brown and they plan to go to the trail next week to identify trees to add to the map. 4H Association member Willard Dodge approved the 20' right of way, which still needs to be completed by Sandford Engineering. The Committee is still waiting to hear from NH DRED. Correspondence from Bay State Forestry dated June 4, 2013 was distributed to all Conservation Commission members to review and vote electronically next week if members want to set aside money for the five phases proposed.

Brochure: Rebecca and Barbara will meet Saturday to discuss. Write ups are done for Skofield, Lyndeborough and Saunders Pasture Conservation Areas. Rebecca will prepare the other write-ups and e-mail them to the group.

Signage: Gerry prepared some signs for some trails. Signs available upstairs in the Town Hall were reviewed in case they need to be put up on Conservation Areas.

Saunders Update: Barbara reported signs were ordered and some were installed. Gordon cleared one trail; the second still needs to be cleared. Review of the upland/highland trail is complete and signs will be put up there.

Trail Monitoring:

- Betsy Dodge: Barbara spoke with surveyor Bob Todd and the pins have just been put in. A copy of the proposal for Saunders Pasture and Lyndeborough Road Conservation Areas are to be filed. Barbara wrote a report and took pictures. SPNHF will also write a report. The agreement with the abutter was the Conservation Commission would find pins and the homeowner's items on the Conservation Area would be removed. The Conservation Commission will start by sending a letter to the homeowner with a copy of the survey noting that the area

was surveyed at the town's expense and items on the Conservation property should be removed as previously discussed. If the items are not removed the Conservation Commission will speak with Code Enforcement Officer Ed Hunter. ATV tracks and unauthorized campfires on the log landing were found and SPNHF was not pleased. Barbara took pictures of these items. The police are monitoring the area. A gate or rocks to block the logging road are being considered. Barbara will ask Alice Follansbee what she would prefer so she can still have the area logged periodically as she has in the past. Burr also walked the Betsy Dodge Conservation Area and noted a snowblower had been used to clear snow for a skating rink. There is also a beaver dam issue making the pond higher. A new trail will be created here. Burr will speak to Willard Dodge about doing this trailwork this summer. Mark will also help. Barbara has marked a new trail on the map.

A Day On The Rail Trail (September 15): A Fish and Game demonstration has been scheduled. A scavenger hunt, fairy house creation area and the cub scouts will be set up on the trail. Lang Station will be thoroughly cleaned. Laura will prepare a schedule of events. Judy Timosa will be scheduled. Dan Rothman will give a tour of the First Settlement. Geochaching will be scheduled. Food will be planned. Amy will speak with Stonyfield Yogurt about donating refreshments. Flyers advertising the event will be mailed to New Boston residents.

Kiosk for Lang Station: The kiosk arrived and is now stored at the Transfer Station. It will be installed in the next two weeks. NH DRED is not expected to have an issue with it. Burr will contact them if necessary. Burr and Gerry will meet tomorrow to determine where it should be installed. Floater mussel information from the state will be posted on the kiosk. NH Fish and Game may want to post information on it as well.

Twin Bridge Open Space Property Update: Laura and Burr spoke with Town Administrator Peter Flynn. The Selectmen want Twin Bridge Land Management to install signs but TBLM can't until the town owns the property. Peter will call a daytime meeting of the Selectmen, Open Space Committee Chairman Ken Lombard, Ian McSweeney, Burr and Laura to discuss this issue. The Martels put a sign up on the right side of their driveway but it needs to be on the left side. The Martels are also concerned with parking issues and people potentially walking across their lawn. Parking signs will be posted and parking spaces created. The Martels also put a sign on the back of their property and that is ok. The location of signs around town owned land were reviewed. A path is planned to be cleared for people to access the river without crossing the Martel property.

Open Discussion:

- Mark appeared before the Selectmen Monday and was appointed as an alternate to the Conservation Commission.
- A memorandum from Planning Coordinator Nic Strong dated June 6, 2013 was read aloud regarding Open Space Subdivision zoning the Planning Board is considering. Ken Lombard will be asked his opinion on this as well. The

Conservation Commission is interested in this topic and will suggest a meeting between the Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee.

- Burr asked his stepson Ben to create a logo for the Conservation Commission using the Lang Station Bridge which is something many people associate with the Conservation Commission. The members reviewed what Ben created and thought it might have too much detail. Ben will be asked to simplify the design. Gerry coined a phrase to go with the design “New Boston Conservation Rangers: A Bridge To The Future.” Mark moved to set aside money for Ben for expenses associated with this design process not to exceed \$250. Tom seconded the motion. All approved.
- Laura attended the recent GIS meeting and said it was a very good presentation and the program would be very useful to the town. The town might move forward with the program next year. There are up front costs of \$30,000-36,000 the first year with a \$1,800 yearly fee. The company will meet with the town again in the next few weeks.

Gerry moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. Tom seconded the motion. All approved.

Respectfully submitted, Maralyn Segien

Action Items:

Person	Date Due	Description	Date Completed
Burr		Confirm Bob Todd for 4 CC tasks that are backlogged in Bob’s office.	
Amy		Write to Jason Pocrant and John Shea confirming their interest in helping work on the Rail Trail	
Gerry		Install signs at every Rail Trail entrance asking for volunteers.	
Rebecca		Brochure design	
Rebecca		Brochure write-ups	
Barbara		Trail Maps marking and color-coding. Barbara and Rebecca will meet in May	
Laura		Attend 250 th Celebration planning meetings	
TBD		Master Plan. Let Planning Board know CC is willing to help when they get to that portion.	
All		Consider events to be held on Rail Trail Day	
Laura		Planning Board and Sitewalk attendance as needed	
Burr		Publish an article in the New Boston Bulletin to educate residents about taking water from the	

		river.	
Barbara and Maralyn		Filing	
Barbara		Campbell Pond research	
All		Monitoring training	
Laura		Find signs for Twin Bridge access road	
Burr		E-mail all CC members regarding participation, upcoming projects and recruiting new members	
Gerry and Laura		Meet to discuss technology and engage appropriate resources.	
Laura		Ask the Road Agent if he has metal poles for the signs to be installed at the Twin Bridge property	
Laura		Ask Firefighter Bob LaPointe if he will do a hand pumper demonstration at the Day on the Rail Trail event	
Barbara		Order signs for Saunders Pasture	June
Burr		Prepare a letter of appreciation to Bo Strong for his donation	
All	June	Vote on Bay State Forestry proposal	
Barbara		Speak to Alice Follansbee about a gate across Betsy Dodge CA logging road	
Burr and Mark		Trailwork at Betsy Dodge CA	
Laura		Prepare list of Day on the Rail Trail events	
Amy		Speak to Stonyfield Yogurt about donating refreshments for Day on the Rail Trail	