

Poland Conservation Commission
Minutes of 9-10-14

Members Present: Fred Huntress (co-chairperson), Don Stover (co-chairperson), John Crouch, John Laskey, Keith Messer, Norm Davis (CEDC), Walter Gallagher (Selectboard), Steve Robinson (Selectboard Liaison). Absent: Sue Ellis, Sandra Knowles.

Meeting called to order: 7:00pm.

Minutes of 8-13-14 reviewed and accepted with the following correction; John Crouch and John Laskey were absent with notification.

Furman Property:

Fred reported \$3200.00 in contributions to purchase property at present.

Fred contacted and distributed property informational packets to many businesses and individuals in town. During the discussion with Heather Printup of Poland Spring Bottling a pledge was made for \$1000.00 by the of October and \$1000.00 pledge for November with a confirmation letter to follow.

Walter Gallagher pledged to contribute his stipend to encourage people to match the \$500.00.

There was discussion on various methods to raise funds to purchase the property, which included the following:

- Possible mass mailing to town citizens to raise funds with the approval of the Selectboard.
- Approach School Board with the prospect of trail/cross country team use.
- Submit a newspaper article explaining the tie-in of the property with the long term municipal development project.
- Possibility of a handout at the town office.

Waterhouse Park:

The was discussion to create documentation with the complete cost of the project in including an engineered bridge. These documents could be used for future budget planning, committees could include the project and possible other town projects for when debt service is removed from the total municipal budget for current debts. The documents may be a useful tool to solicit industries in town for 2015 budgets.

The ACE grant disapproval was due to misunderstanding of use at State Government level. The State Dept. of Conservation met with Bradley Plante, Scott Segal, Mark Bosse and Don Stover to review the site for the bridge. It was noted that if the bridge is used for multi-use trails the chance is 3 times greater to be awarded a grant.

Miscellaneous Business:

The State Conservation Commission is holding a Community GIS mapping conference at the University of Maine October 30th. Don will approach Nick Adam about possibly attending, attendance fees should be waived due to the Poland Conservation Commissions membership.

Fred, Don, and Keith, along with Alan Audet (Poland Trail Committee) attended the Comprehensive Planning Committee meeting on September 8th. The meeting consisted of a good cross section of members from various committees in Poland to discuss possible uses for the Hilt Hollow Area.

There was brief discussion to acquire new members and associates for the Conservation Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm .

Respectfully submitted by,
Keith Messer