



Town of Sandown , NH

Conservation Commission

Minutes

October 11, 2012

Date: October 11, 2012

Place: Sandown Town Hall

Members Present: Paul Carey – Chair, Brian Butler, Scott Burt, Mark Traeger, Samantha Borbone, Andrea Cairns

Selectmen Liaison: Mr. Hans Nicolaisen: Absent

Environmental Consultant: Mr. Gerry Miller, Certified Wetlands Scientist: Present

Annual Fishing Derby Chair: Mrs. Heidi Chaput: Absent

Opening: Mr. Carey opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Approval of 9/27/12 Minutes

Line 128 – change to Jenny

MOTION: Mr. Traeger made a motion to approve the 9/27/12 minutes as amended. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. Members voted in favor. Mr. Burt abstained. The motion passed.

Mr. Carey appointed Ms. Cairns as a voting member for the evening.

Mr. Butler noted that the Boy Scouts asked for another cut on the field for the Spooky Walk which he would take care of.

Approval of 9/27/12 Non-Public Minutes

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the 9/27/12 Non-Public minutes as written. Mr. Traeger seconded the motion. Mr. Burt and Ms. Cairns abstained.

Correspondence

Mr. Traeger reviewed the correspondence.

Mr. Traeger noted that three checks were issued and the board needed to fill out the paperwork for deposit. Mr. Carey asked if the Board could assign signature duties to someone on the Board and would contact Ms. Blaisdell or Ms. Buckley to find out.

The Board received an invoice from Gerry Miller for \$200 and an invoice from Attorney Gorrow for a \$162.00 for further review of the land purchase.

The Board received a brochure from the Association of Conservation, their annual meeting is November 3rd in Concord; and a postcard regarding the Estuaries Conference on November 7, 2013.

Mr. Traeger noted the public hearing for the purchase of the Drowne's property would be November 1, 2012. Ms.

Cairns will post the notice and put it in the Eagle Tribune.

Mr. Carey noted that meetings would switch to the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month for November and December.

Spooky Walk

Mr. Traeger will bring the tent, tables and a lantern. Ms. Borbone purchased candy to hand out. Mr. Burt had literature to distribute. Members agreed to arrive at the event at 4:30 to set-up and would stay until 8:00.

Mr. Traeger will also bring the larger trail map and an easel.

Grant Opportunity

Mr. Traeger reviewed a grant opportunity from PREP (Piscataqua Regional Estuaries Project). He noted they have a grant opportunity through DES to do a study on Showell Pond to determine why it gets cyanobacteria blooms every year. He noted that Ms. Sally Soule from DES would come down and walk the property with him to give him an idea of how much to ask for. He noted the Planning Board is on board with the project.

Mr. Traeger will fill out the application.

Mr. Butler asked if Mr. Traeger would speak with Fred Riley of the Showell Pond Association to get his input on the project. Mr. Traeger will contact him.

Mr. Miller noted that recent legislation passed that doesn't allow anyone on other people's property without written permission, so they would need to get consent from property owners before moving forward. The other item he noted was that there are streams that feed into the pond that could be coming from sources miles away which could be affecting the pond.

Mr. Traeger acknowledged that cooperation from the landowners would be key; otherwise it wouldn't be worth doing the project.

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Carey about the behavior of phosphorus and nitrogen once it gets into the pond. Mr. Carey noted that phosphorus doesn't move and is extremely insoluble; Nitrate does disintegrate. Mr. Carey questioned if there was existing data to give them a baseline. Mr. Traeger confirmed there was.

There were no objections from the Commission on moving forward with the application.

Wetlands Buffer Ordinance

Mr. Traeger informed the Commission that the Planning Board is going to move forward with a revised wetlands buffer ordinance. He noted the biggest change to the language would grandfather existing lots.

Mr. Miller suggested modeling the ordinance after the shoreland buffer ordinance. Mr. Traeger noted that it was, but that the shoreland advisory committee was working to make changes to that ordinance.

Gates

Mr. Traeger noted that NRCS contacted RCCD and they are going to put gates on the Porter property. He noted the first entrance would be moved up about 10'. Mr. Butler asked about the equipment turnaround areas and if the gate placement would be a problem. Mr. Traeger would suggest to them to move the middle gate to make room for potential logging equipment. He noted the gates will be locked and keys would be given to the Commission and the Fire Chief.

Signage for Fremont Road Town Forest

Ms. Borbone would like to put a sign somewhere explaining Great Rock with a link to the website to explain the significance. Members discussed potentially doing QR codes around the trails. Ms. Borbone would look into the cost for doing that.

Mr. Traeger reminded members they would be meeting with the Budget Committee on November 14th.

Mr. Carey suggested that Ms. Poulin send a letter to the Board of Selectmen stating her interest in joining the Commission.

MOTION: Mr. Burt made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Borbone seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Cairns". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Andrea Cairns