

Stratham Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Members present were Tim Copeland, Bill McCarthy, Bob Keating, Bill Grace, Pat Elwell, Donna Jensen, and Brad Jones; others in attendance included Debbie Foss.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

New business

Minutes

- Pat Elwell motioned, Donna Jensen seconded a motion to accept the minutes of March 27 with the spelling of Donna Jensen's last name corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

Mail

- The CC received a letter from Aquarion Water Company of Hampton, NH. The company is conducting surveys of water sources in Stratham and a summary will be sent to the CC at the study's conclusion.
- Annual Drinking Water Source Conference will be held on Wed May 1, in Concord NH 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Election of Officers

- Pat moved to elect herself and Donna as co-chairs of the conservation commission; she also moved that Allison Knab continue her duties as secretary. Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old business

9th Annual Stratham Roadside Clean Up Day 6 April 2013

- A thank you letter written for Lindt & Sprungli and signed by Donna and Tim Copeland.
- A volunteer thank you letter Exeter Newsletter (ENL) will be written by Donna this week.
- Pat recommended that the Conservation Commission write a letter of commendation for Colin Laverty the Road Agent for effort demonstrated at the clean up day. Donna will write the letter promptly and provide to Tim the CC Selectman Board representative.
- Reimbursement was requested by Pat, Bill and Donna for purchases made during the clean up day.
 - Donna's total was \$74.18
 - Pat's total was \$251.64
 - Bill's total was \$9.98
- Pat noted that she made 850 copies of the clean up day flyer. That purchase was billed directly to the Town.
- The names of volunteers for the clean-up day were put in a hat for the compost bin raffle. Lauren Byrnes was the winner. Donna will include this information in the ENL thank you letter.
- Ideas for improving the clean up day for next year were discussed:
 - Tim recommends the first weekend after Earth Day, April 22, might be a better week than earlier weeks in April.

- Bob thinks that poison ivy is a problem if the clean up day is held in May; it should be held in April.
- Bill suggested having a map for providing direction for volunteers.
- Certain roads are dirtier than others and must be covered with more volunteers.
- Tim stated that lunch and coffee was a good draw for the day and seemed more successful than in years past when breakfast was served.
 - No one drank the decaffeinated coffee; hot chocolate and coffee were popular with volunteers.
- Pat said that in the past a couple hundred bags have been filled by volunteers. New Hampshire the Beautiful blue bags need to be ordered for next year.
- A grill will be needed for next year if the CC hosts a cookout. The park grills are broken and inadequate for the number of attendees desired.

Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Pick Up 6 April 2013

- Two compost bins that had been sold were not picked up on Saturday 6 April. There is one remaining unsold compost bin left at the DPW shed that should be saved for display in the municipal center. There are still a number of rain barrels that are unsold and available to those who wish to purchase one.

Planning Board and Municipal Updates

- Some land off of Stonybrook may be developed for a new shopping mall; information may be coming in the coming weeks.
- The old technical college is under agreement; an announcement is forthcoming.
- Terry Barnes is investigating potential illegal wetland filling occurring in the Burnham Woods neighborhood.
- Trail construction will begin this month at the Makris development at 32 Bunker Hill Avenue.

Pat motioned, Tim seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm. All voted in favor.

The next Conservation Committee meeting will be held April 24, 2013.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Jensen, Conservation Commission Chairperson