



BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Conservation Commission

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Minutes

Conservation Commission

Tuesday October 08, 2013

7:00pm

Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman
Jay Chrystal, Vice-Chairman
Evangelos (Evan) Gerekos, Member
Jordan Bailey, Member
Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative

Absent: Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt, Alternate, and Eric DiVirgilio, Alternate.

Minutes

Brendan made a motion to approve the Non-public Conservation Commission meeting minutes of August 20, 2013 as amended. Jay seconded. Vote yes 3-0.

Brendan made a motion to approve the Conservation Commission meeting minutes of August 27, 2013 both public and non-public. Evan seconded. Vote yes 4-0.

Brendan made a motion to approve the Conservation Commission meeting minutes of September 10, 2013 both public and non-public. Jordan seconded. Vote yes 3-0.

General Business

Ghost Rail Trail Run

Buddy said he and Jordan attended the meeting in Milford about the Ghost Rail Trail Race. **Jordan** has been putting a lot of time into this project. **Buddy** said they have about 200 people signed up for the ultra race and about 60 for the 15 mile race. They still need volunteers. We will be gathering at Tevya at 6:00 am on Saturday October 26 to start setting up. **Buddy** said the ultra race starts and finishes in Brookline this year.

Milfoil Update – weed pulling

Buddy said we had a diver from Aqualogic at Melendy Pond on Thursday October 3, 2013, following the map DES provide him, he pulled a 5 gallon bucket of milfoil from the Pond. On Friday October 4th he was at Lake Potanipo and he pulled 15 gallons of milfoil from the Lake. The diver stated he found some kind of weed growing by the dock on lot L-27 that he was unable to identify so he has sent a sample to the State for analysis. They also said the mouth of North Stream has native milfoil growing there.

Railroad Bed Project Update (RTP Grant)

Buddy said he has received the invoices from Bentley Management Group Inc. the total project cost is \$11,388.74. We will need to pay from the Conservation General Fund/Land Acquisition fund. **Jay** said the reimbursement for the RTP Grant should be \$11,231.47. The total cost for this project is \$157.57.

Jay made a motion to remove the \$11,388.74 from the Conservation General fund for the utilization of trail maintainance to pay for the balance due on the Brookline rail trail improvement project of which we will be reimbursed \$11,231.47 leaving the total cash outlay beyond budget of \$157.27. Brendan seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Buddy said they will also be installing two fences/gates to keep access down per the agreement with the land owner that allowed us access at 254 Route 13. There will also be one at the Bartell trailhead. Gate city fence is doing the work they and the funding will come from the Ghost Train Rail trail race for the gate located at 254 Route 13. The Bartell Trail will be funded through other means. **Jay** asked if the purpose of it is to keep the bridge abutment from eroding. **Buddy** said yes hopefully, this should help keep out bike traffic.

Wetland Permit Process

Jordan said she spoke to Milford Conservation Commission about the permit process and they refer to the DES Wetlands Rules 300-700 section:

“Env-Wt 302.04 Requirements for Application Evaluation.

(a) For any major or minor project, the applicant shall demonstrate by plan and example that the following factors have been considered in the project’s design in assessing the impact of the proposed project to areas and environments under the department’s jurisdiction:

(1) The need for the proposed impact;

NEW HAMPSHIRE CODE OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

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(2) The alternative proposed by the applicant is the one with the least impact to wetlands or surface waters on site;

(3) The type and classification of the wetlands involved;

(4) The relationship of the proposed wetlands to be impacted relative to nearby wetlands and surface waters;

(5) The rarity of the wetland, surface water, sand dunes, or tidal buffer zone area;

(6) The surface area of the wetlands that will be impacted;

(7) The impact on plants, fish and wildlife including, but not limited to:

a. Rare, special concern species;

b. State and federally listed threatened and endangered species;

c. Species at the extremities of their ranges;

d. Migratory fish and wildlife;

e. Exemplary natural communities identified by the DRED-NHB; and

f. Vernal pools.”

The entire section can be found at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rules/documents/env-wt300-700.pdf>

Jordan said she also spoke with Fish and Game and they said they had a Blanding turtle sighting within a few miles if that area. They were not sure why it wasn’t listed on the application submitted at the last meeting. She is still waiting for a call from Hollis Conservation Commission to see what there procedures

are. Hopefully, she will have an update for the Board at the next meeting.

2014 Budget

The Town Administrator, Tad Putney was in attendance for this discussion. He said the Selectboard is looking for flat or reduced budgets. They reviewed every line item and discussed amounts needed for next year. The Board agreed on the following amounts proposed for 2014:

Maint. Of Conservation Lands – \$2,000

Conferences – \$170. Last year 2 members attended the Saving Special Places Conference and they rented a booth at the Milford Expo.

Memberships - \$665 – this is for the yearly fee of \$265 for the NHACC, \$300 for the NH Lakes Association, and \$100 for the Nissitissit River Watershed Association.

Town Beautification – the board agreed to remove this budget item.

Postage & Public Information - \$250

Outside Consulting - \$300 Jay said they will need Randy with Meridian Land Services to do some conceptual plan of the conservation lands for grant purposes.

Reference/Resource Materials – the Board agreed to remove this budget item.

Water Sampling- \$1,165 One large round of testing and they have tested extra for e-coli depending on the weather about once a month.

Water Sampling Equipment – the Board agreed to remove this budget item.

Invasive Species Control – Lake Host - \$2,500 for Lake Host purposes.

Taylor Dam Yearly Fee - \$400 Billed in October.

Jay said the total proposed budget amount of \$7,450 for 2014. **Brendan** said when you go to the Selectboard meeting you may want to let them know what the Commission has brought in this year. It is clear that the Commission is trying to receive funding for its projects. **Jay** said so far the Conservation Commission has brought in \$7,000 for Milfoil treatment, \$11,231.47 from the RTP grant/ Rail Trail Improvement Project, and \$1,240 for the Lake Host program. **Brendan** said the Eagle Scout projects that are in the process at the moment are of great values as well.

Lake Host

Buddy said the Lake Host Association is looking for letters of support for the 2014 year. **Jordan** said she would write up a letter.

Non-Public Session

Brendan made a motion to go into non-public session to discuss possible land purchases under RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) and immediately adjourn after. Jordan seconded. Buddy, Jay, Evan, Jordan, and Brendan all voted yes.

Brendan made a motion to come out of non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) and seal the minutes. Jordan seconded. Buddy, Jay, Evan, Jordan, and Brendan all voted yes.

Brendan made a motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Evan Seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, _____

Jay Chrystal, Vice-Chairman, _____

Evangelos (Evan) Gerekos, Member, _____

Jordan Bailey, Member, Jordan Bailey

Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative _____

Submitted by Kristen Austin

Next meeting will be held on November 12, 2013