



**Town of
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**
Conservation Commission
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**Minutes
Conservation Commission
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
7:00pm**

Present: Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman
Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Representative
Jordan Bailey, Member
Tom Roger, Member
Drew Kellner, Alternate (Voting for Jay)

Absent: Jay Chrystal, Vice-Chairman and Eric DiVirgilio, Alternate.

Buddy asked Drew to vote for Jay. **Drew** agreed.

Trail Day Idea Discussion

Drew said he came up with a couple of weekends that would work. October 10th & 11th and October 17th & 18th.

Buddy said he and Cindy went down and cleaned up the trees that Bob had marked and cleaned up the trail a bit.

Regional Conservation Commission-Pipeline Opposition Letter

Buddy said they have received a letter from the Regional Conservation Commission. This is a letter in opposition to the pipeline which they are looking for all conservation Commissions to sign. Buddy asked if the Board would like to sign this letter.

Brendan made a motion to authorize Buddy Dougherty to sign the Regional Conservation Commission letter in opposition of the pipeline. Tom seconds. Vote yes 5-0.

Pipeline Taskforce update

Jordan said three people from Brookline attended the scoping meeting that Kinder Morgan had arranged one was in Milford and one was in Nashua. In attendance from the Brookline Pipeline Taskforce was Drew Kellner, Tad Putney, and Jordan Bailey. By August 31, 2015 they should have the questions submitted. Submitted questions should get answers back in writing.

Grant Opportunities

Buddy said there are some grant opportunities one being the Moose Plate Grant. They have had good luck in the past receiving this grant for erosion controls on the trails. The last one they completed was out behind the Boy Scout camp on the Palmer property. He said he would like to apply for this grant again for

erosion control on the upper Bartell Trail. He would like this application finished for the next meeting. He will discuss with Amos White (Bentley Management Corp.) about getting some equipment in this area to work on the trail. The Board agreed.

IceBreakers – Trail work

Buddy said he had noticed last week that the President of the IceBreakers was out on his ATV doing some trail work. He said he spoke with him and requested that they just let us know if they are working on town trails. **Buddy** said he appreciates they work that they do. **Tom** said he agreed they do need more communication between the two groups. **Buddy** said Jay is our representative to the IceBreakers so he will have him discuss it with the IceBreakers. **Jordan** said if they are out working with ATV's they should be marked somehow especially if the trail is marked no motorized vehicles.

Ghost Train Rail Race

Jordan said every year the race gets bigger and bigger. We are going to start having a parking issue. This year the ultra-race will start and finish in Brookline. We need to figure out if we have enough parking to accommodate all the cars. We have the Tevya parking lot, the lot across the street at the covered bridge and last year they talked about getting the grove to open the gates for this event. Jordan suggested they contact CSDA and see if they would be able to use the parking lot there if needed. **Drew** said for the future you may want to consider bussing from this location or other locations in town. **Buddy** said they could also use the town hall parking area that's within walking distance of the Grove. They should try to keep people out of the Boat launch area. He believes they will have plenty of room to accommodate all the cars this year. The Board agreed to contact the Principal of RMMS to request permission to use this parking lot if they are in need of overflow parking.

Jeeps on Melendy Trails

Jordan said she was going by there and saw someone on a dirt Bike she pulled over and explained they motorized vehicles are not allowed on conservation property. She was also wondering about the chains that should have been installed to keep the jeeps out of this area. They were not up when she was there. **Buddy** said he would check on the chains.

Potanipo Rail Trail – between South Main Street and Bohanon Bridge Road

Jordan said the signs just went up that state no motorized vehicles and the Police Department just issued two \$400 fines for riding dirt bikes on this trail. **Drew** said this needs to publicize more so people are aware they could be fined. **Jordan** said she will put it on the Facebook page.

Tom said the dirt bikes have been out on Hobart Fessenden area a lot lately also.

Forestry Practices

Jordan said there are a number of timber operations going on in town. What is the process for this? **Drew** said they have to file an intent to cut if it is over 10,000 board feet. **Jordan** asked if they need to inform the abutters when they cut. **Drew** said they do not need to inform abutters. **Kristen** said she can let the Board know of any intent to cut that comes in.

Jordan said there is also a cutting operation off North Mason Road and it looks like they had cut down to the water. Can we have the Code Enforcement Officer look into this? **Kristen** said she would let him know.

Trash Update – Cider Mill Pond Trail Head

Jordan said someone had dumped trash at the Cider Mill Pond Trail Head. She informed the Police Department and they are looking into it. She hasn't heard anything back yet. **Tad Putney** said he would find out what the Police Department did.

Support letter for Rivers Rail Trail Grant

Drew said the Selectboard will be writing a letter of support for this grant application and he believes the Conservation Commission should also. **Tom made a motion to allow Buddy Dougherty to sign a letter of support for the Conservation Commission for the Rivers Rail Trail Grant. Brendan seconded. Vote yes 5-0.**

Beaver Box Stickney Brook

Buddy said he has receipts for reimbursement of the construction materials they picked up to make the beaver box they installed at Stickney Brook. The cost was \$60.32. **Brendan made a motion that they reimburse Buddy Dougherty the \$60.32 for the cost of the material to build the beaver box installed at Stickney Brook. Jordan seconded. Vote yes 5-0.**

Minutes

Brendan made a motion to approve the minutes of July 14, 2015 as written. Drew seconded. Vote yes 3-0. 2 abstained.

Brendan made a motion to approve the minutes of July 14, 2015 non-public as written. Drew seconded. Vote yes 3-0. 2 abstained.

Melendy Pond Association

In attendance for this discussion was Linda Chomiak – Melendy Pond Association and Brookline Resident, Tom LaRochelle – Melendy Pond Association and Brookline Resident, and Tad Putney – Town Administrator.

Linda said she is here tonight representing the Melendy Pond Association. She would like to work with the Conservation Commission to improve the area around Melendy Pond. They have some trash and noise issues. **Tad** asked if this is located on land that is controlled by the Melendy Pond Authority or more toward the Conservation Land. **Linda** said on both sides of the road there is a trash issue she would like to know if there is something they could do other than picking it up. **Tom** said some of the stuff being dumped is costly to throw out. They found mattresses dumped out in this area and full bags of trash. **Linda** said there has been no dumping out there recently but would like to know if there is something they should do differently if there is. **Tom** said also some people have junk cars and trailers on these lots. **Drew** asked if this was a BCC controlled area or the area controlled by the Authority. **Tom** said this is located closer to the pond. **Linda** said they just want to know what the Association could do. **Jordan** said the BCC holds a spring clean-up week at the end of April and you can collect blue bags from the Transfer Station and once filled the Road Agent will be on the lookout for those bags, collect them, and bring them to the Transfer Station. **Jordan** said if you bring in large items to the Transfer Station and just explain that these items were dumped on town property they should not charge you. **Linda** asked if Fish and Game should be contacted. **Drew** said he is not sure what Fish and Game will do but DES may be of some help. **Drew** asked if they have discussed this with the Authority yet. **Linda** said this is our Charter as the Association. **Linda** said one of our issues is the ATVs and snowmobiles running through the leased area. **Tom** said they had someone on a dirt bike go down his walk way to the public beach and tear up the beach before heading back up the walk way. He has contacted Fish and Game and they told him to take pictures if they see someone on a dirt bike where they shouldn't be. **Drew** asked if they have approached the IceBreaker's yet. It is on them to self-police the snowmobiles should there be an issue they don't want to risk having a trail closed. **Linda** said they have not yet. **Linda** said the Board doesn't have to answer this right now but the Association is interested in knowing how they can help support the Conservation Commission. **Jordan** said seeing as they are in this area more than the Commission is they could just keep an eye out. **Linda** said Tom has also volunteered to do the water sampling at Melendy for the Commission. **Buddy** asked if they thought the Association would be opposed to making this a no prop pond to help fight the milfoil issue. **Linda** said she would ask at the next meeting. **Tad** asked if that is something the Town can do or is this

body of water big enough to be under the purview of the State. They should look into this. **Linda** said they have also discussed there being an opportunity to offer a town beach as an alternative to the Grove. On a much smaller scale.

Milfoil at Melendy Pond

In attendance for this discussion was Linda Chomiak – Melendy Pond Association and Brookline Resident, Tom LaRochelle – Melendy Pond Association and Brookline Resident, and Tad Putney – Town Administrator.

Buddy said is the spring the Board was informed that Melendy Pond would not need a treatment this year. Amy Smagula (DES) has just informed us that Melendy Pond has 6 acres of milfoil. The divers assessed the pond and to dive it would cost \$15,480. The Lake is in good shape and the divers were out to hand pull with the suction harvester. They have also been out in front of Camp Tevya and hand pulled milfoil there also. The divers said the milfoil at Melendy Pond is about to hit the surface. They have expedited the permit to treat the Pond for the milfoil. **Buddy** said this will cost us \$7,280. **Tad** said there is about \$8,000 left in the Warrant Article for the treatment of milfoil but it only pertains to Lake Potanipo. **Buddy** said Melendy Pond Authority has covered the cost of treatment in the past. **Tad** said there funds are not what they used to be and they may not be able to cover it this year. **Drew** asked if the Conservation Commission could pay for this out of the operating budget. **Tad** said as long as you don't do over your total budgeted amount. **Buddy** asked Linda and Tom with the Melendy Pond Association if they wanted to pay for a portion of the treatment. **Tad** said one year they used the Land Acquisition Fund to treat the Lake. He was on the Conservation Commission at that time thought it was the right thing to do at the time. **Buddy** said the townspeople were not happy with that decision so that is not an option. **Drew** suggested they split it three ways between the BCC, Melendy Pond Authority and the Melendy Pond Association. The Board reviewed the Operating budget for the 2015 year. **Drew made a motion to allow the Conservation Commission to spend up to \$2500 for the milfoil treatment of Melendy Pond in 2015. Tom seconded. Vote yes 4-1. Buddy was opposed to this.**

Linda said she will ask the Association at the next meeting but she believe the payment of \$5,000 for the Melendy Pond Authority is better than what they normally pay. **Brendan** asked when the treatment will take place. **Buddy** said should be mid-September. **Jordan** asked what happens if one of the groups doesn't come through. **Tad** said he will ask the Selectboard if it come to that would they cover a portion of the cost. **Tom made a motion to allow Buddy Dougherty to sign the Contract with Aquatic Controls to spend up to \$2,500 of the total cost of \$7,280 if the remainder of the bill is fulfilled for the removal of milfoil from Melendy Pond. Drew seconds. Vote yes 5-0.**

Drew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm. Tom seconded. Vote yes 5-0.

Francis (Buddy) Dougherty, Chairman, _____

Brendan Denehy, Selectboard Rep., _____

Jordan Bailey, Member, _____

Tom Rogers, Member, _____

Drew Kellner, Alternate, _____

Minutes submitted by Kristen Austin.

Next meeting will be held on September 8, 2015