



Town of Candia
Conservation Commission
74 High Street
Candia, New Hampshire
03034

Candia Conservation Commission April 21st, 2015 Minutes (unapproved)

Attendees:

Chair Betsy Kruse, Ellie Davidson, Susan Wilderman, Dennis Lewis, Mimi Alberu, Dick Snow (alt.)
Donna Del Rosso recording secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Betsy Kruse followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
Dick Snow was seated as a voting member.

Guest: Joel DeStasio-Trout Unlimited-Fordway Brook, Colin Lawson-Trout Unlimited, Dan Kerns-Bear Paw

Residents: Ruth & Ed Fowler

Public Comment Period

Regular Business:

1. Minutes of previous meeting:

Suggestions were given to Donna to revise.
Dick motioned to accept minutes as revised.
Seconded by Ellie.
No further discussion.
Motion passed, Betsy abstained.

2. Conservation Land/Easement(s)/Acquisition Status:

No new information available at this time.

3. Wetland Permit Applications:

Ellie reported no new applications have been received at this time.

4. Land Use/Wetland/Enforcement Issues:

Dennis reported nothing new, except Joan Galanis property, Jeff Goff will come to the planning board once he has a plan. Discussion also regarding a wetlands issue on New Boston Rd. will followed up with the Planning Board.

Dan Kerns now present and the committee wanted to discuss the ongoing projects with Trout Unlimited and Bear-Paw. Joel explained the process for the Fordway Brook project. WPS-Wetland Preserve Program which is NRCS wetland protection program is looking to go into Fordway Brook and doing in stream habitat restoration-referred to large stream wood installation. They cite specific areas that can benefit from these restorative processes. They take wood (near existing area) and hand place these large pieces of wood into the stream to promote the dynamics and characteristics of the stream to replicate habitat conditions for warm water fish species within the stream to protect their habitat. This process allows protection from thermal exposure. Brook trout prefer ripple pool habitats and a lot of these streams lack that. Colin stated that WRP has gone away and all the easements under that program have a specific time frame to complete restorations associated with them. Dan stated these are permanent easements. Dan stated the Land Protection Committee of Bear-Paw (mainly Mark West-also on the committee) is working under contract with NRCS on administering these restoration projects. NRCS is funding these programs. Joel will file a wetland permit application once he receives a land owner approval letter (which is Bear-Paw), then submit all corresponding paperwork to the Town of Candia. Trout Unlimited has currently 23 areas they are prioritizing for the best overall effect to help stream habitat. They have been taking water samples twice a year for the last couple of years. They will also continue to take samples after the wood has been installed. Betsy suggested a kiosk near the area to keep everyone that goes there information on the project. Joel is trying to get DES approval by May 1st, June 1st the latest and their goal is to do 1-2 projects a week, depending on weather, manpower and volunteers they would also welcome photographers. Dan suggested forwarding a schedule to us so we could assist. Consensus of the board recommended Chair Betsy to sign the approval for the wetland application to be submitted to DES in support of this project. It was also suggested to have the Town Clerk sign as well, since she was here and available. NRCS all offers projects to private property landowners with qualifying aspects. NRCS would fund 75% and Trout would find the other 25% if they met the qualifications. The CCC thanked Colin and Joel for time and information.

Dan presented a new map to the Town, with explanations of what new projects are being worked on. New Bear-Paw brochures and newsletters were distributed, and will be available at the Town Clerk shelf and the Library. Bear-Paw now has 11 towns with easements, just below 7500 acres owned or have easements. The new Bear-Paw maps have 4 different categories: wildlife habitat, water features, drinking water and farm land. Bear-Paw is very interested in large forest blocks and expanding those areas, making connections with other conservation areas when possible. Farm land with its high developmental function is very hard to obtain, not to mention very costly to acquire. The CCC thanked Dan for the maps, he will work on creating one so that we can hang with our others.

5. Correspondence:

6. Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices:

Donna submitted an invoice for the month of March in the amount of \$77.28

Mimi motioned to pay the amount of \$77.28 to Donna.

Seconded by Ellie.
No other discussion.
Passed unanimously.

Request to decrease the CCC budget by 4% which equals \$96.

7. Conservation Commission Website:

We need to update the Conservation easement info. from Judi, to CCC e-mail on the website.

Betsy asked Dennis to invite John Ekroth regarding updating our maps.

Old Business:

1. Land Trust Report:

Dick suggested putting the Deerfield Town forest easement on the website for an example.

2. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives:

Dick had nothing new to report.

3. Forest Management:

Dennis spoke to Charlie Moreno, we would not see the final paperwork for Hemlock till at least Sept.

4. New Boston Rd. Conservation Area Bridge:

Dennis will work with Sean James to see what the best course of action would be, without applying for a wetland permit. Dennis will meet with Sean on a Sunday and walk the area again. The CCC will then determine the best solution. Dick will look thru paperwork to check the wetland permit application again. Discussion regarding putting in just a foot bridge, would that be the best plan with minimal cost at this time? Dennis and Susan will take care of the broken planks before the next CCC meeting.

Dick discussed the Hemlock Dr. trails, Dennis will move the current tree which is blocking it at the moment.

Other Business

1. Barry Conservation Camp:

We received 1 (one) application, young male. Essay interest letter was read to the CCC members. Discussion: Members thought he was very enthusiastic, age appropriate and an acceptable candidate. Dick motioned to accept applicant Patrick Dupre for the Barry Conservation Camp Scholarship, the week of July 12-17th 2015.

Ellie seconded.

No other discussion.

Passed unanimously.

This Scholarship for Barry Conservation Camp was provided from sale of the CCC calendars & donations, sold in memory of Deb Bell Levesque.

Betsy will compose a letter to Patrick. The CCC would like to have Patrick come to next month's meeting to present a check and photo opportunity. Dennis will contact Patrick to obtain all the paperwork and get him signed up for the camp.

2. Wildlife Critter Crossing Signs:

Peggy Mun (Healey Rd.) would be very interested in volunteering with the placement of some of the signs. The CCC would like to see the signs at eye level. Betsy, Ellie and Susan would like a couple signs, Donna will work on staking these to green posts and forward. The CCC would like to have approval of the private landowners so they take ownership.

3. 2016 Calendar/Photo Contest:

Photos will be sent to Donna, who will then make a cd for the CCC to determine which photos will be used in the upcoming calendar.

4. Election of officers:

Betsy would like to wait till next meeting as Vice-chair Judi Lindsey was unavailable.

5. Membership renewal confirmations:

Membership terms currently due to expire are: Ellie Davidson, Mimi Alberu, and Dick Snow.

These people should let Betsy know if they are still interested so that she can compose a letter of interest to the BOS for these sustaining members. Dick will contact Mark Pepper to see if he is still interested in being on the CCC board.

6. Saving Special Places Conference reports:

Unfortunately no one was available to attend.

7. NHACC questionnaire:

Betsy gathered the CCC members' questionnaires.

Susan is working with her students on basic stream ecology. Her goal is to design a project this year and be implemented next year.

Wildlife Action Plan discussion programs were discussed, some member interest was displayed.

No other business addressed

Motion made by Susan to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Seconded by Mimi.

No further discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by recording secretary, Donna Del Rosso