

DRAFT MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2015

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Matt Oliveira, David McTigue, Dixie Blease, Joanne Meshna

PUBLIC: Kleta Dudley (SOLAC representative)

ABSENT: Jack Messe

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office.

The minutes of the July 9, 2014 meeting were reviewed and the following correction made: page 1 under public present, add a parenthesis before SOLAC. David made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Dixie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Brenna met with the Commission to discuss the logo. It was agreed that she would take the logo agreed on by the members and sharpen it up. The tree will be more defined as a white pine. She will send the changes to Joanne for distribution to the members.

Committee Reports:

Water Resources: Bob compiled a stream list for signage that members reviewed. The signs will be blue and white and Peter Goewey will have them made. The cost for the signs will come from the grant. Dixie made a motion to accept the stream list for signage as the official list. Bob seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Members reviewed the sign proposed for the Nussdorfer Nature Area. Peter Goewey will have the sign made and it will be placed in the right-of-way at the intersection of East Old Country and Turnpike Roads. There will be two signs back to back on the pole and the cost is \$110.00. The sign that David made for the Nussdorfer Nature Area will be put in the parking area at the trailhead.

Bob reported there is a State law that requires a town vote for protection of Town owned land. He has spoken with two attorneys who confirm it. Two public hearings have to be held before the vote.

Bob informed the Commission of a bridge being built on a lot on Boynton Hill Road that is 100 feet by 10 feet and crosses wetlands. A building permit was not issued. Bob's concern was oak decking which may involve treatment in the winter that would go into the wetlands. Suggestion was made that Bob speak with the owners about the Commission's concerns.

The wetland application process was discussed. A quorum of the members should visit the site before a vote is taken to approve the application. Bob will discuss with town counsel.

Russell Salo submitted a plan for plantings around the stream on his property which includes white river birches, sedge grass and junipers. The Commission will monitor the results of the planting. Question arose as to where it states that during reclamation of an area the 25 foot buffer needs requires compliance.

David submitted proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance on stream buffers. He will e-mail to members a fact sheet he has prepared.

Trails: Matt and Jack walked the Kellogg property to lay out the trail and found it difficult to do so because of high shrubs, steep slopes, poison ivy, wet areas, etc. Bob distributed a map where he had drawn a potential trail. Dixie made a motion to send the proposed trail to Mr. Kellogg if Jack approves of it asking Mr. Kellogg if the new drawing satisfies his concerns. Matt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Lands: Bob spoke to Mark Moran, the civil engineer involved with the Highbridge project to make sure the overlook suggested by the Town on the Town property at the intersection of Highbridge and Turnpike Roads was still in the plan, and it is.

Mansfield Meadow is accessed by Tophet Swamp and the Monadnock Conservancy is unable to monitor if there is no land access to the site.

New Business: Bob distributed a memo he had sent to the Board of Selectmen regarding changes to the building permit application to improve protection of the Town's surface waters. The proposed changes are on hold until a new Building Inspector is hired.

The Commission will not meet on September 10 has originally scheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary