

DRAFT MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2012

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Jack Messe, David McTigue, Doug Waitt, Joanne Meshna

ABSENT: Dixie Rhoads, Matt Oliveira

David made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2012 meeting. Doug seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Trails: The monitoring of the Kellogg property and the laying out of the Kellogg trail will be done on November 10.

Lands: The power of attorney for the Williston property has not been cleared up. Mr. Williston is trying to get his father back into the country in order to take care of it. Once that is done the purchasing process will continue. Clean up is expected to be in the spring.

Locks are needed at the Nussdorfer and Johnson properties, Whirlpool Road and Preston Hill Road and the dam sites (13, 14, 35) that are keyed alike. Bob will research the best locks to purchase and the subject will be discussed at the next meeting.

A gate is needed for the Johnson property and \$2,500 had been put in the proposed 2013 budget. Bob met with the Finance Advisory Committee on Monday evening and they did not approve the expenditure.

Water Resources: David continues to work on the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on stream buffers. Members made suggestions and answered questions from David.

Tree Warden: Several years ago the Selectmen asked that the Tree Warden come under the Commission. Members discussed whether the Tree Warden should continue under the Commission or report directly to the Selectmen. Doug made a motion that the Board of Selectmen return the responsibility of the Tree Warden to their own Board. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Bob will be meeting with the Selectmen at their next meeting.

New Business: Bob suggested an amendment to the by-laws, Article V C) on quorums as follows: change from "The presence of three regular or alternate members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum." to "A majority of full members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum."

Also Article XI, change from "At any regular meeting of the Commission the members can adopt by-laws by approval of the majority of the Commissioners. A majority in this

case is four (4) voting members.” to “At any regular meeting of the Commission the members can adopt by-laws by approval of a quorum of full time Commissioners.”

The proposed changes will be sent to all members prior to the next meeting when a vote will be taken.

Members discussed the need for signs at several of the Conservation Commission sites. Doug updated the members on the signs for the stream crossings. The original plan was to have the logo put on the signs. At the next meeting Dixie will be asked for an update on the status of the logo.

Members discussed hunting on conservation land and what signage should be placed to inform hikers that hunting is allowed. The consensus was that a sign stating “hunting permitted” be installed.

Doug made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Bob Boynton and Dixie Rhoads be re-appointed for three year terms. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jack made a motion to reinstate Bob as Chairman, David as Vice Chairman and Joanne as Secretary. Doug seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary