

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
December 6, 2010

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young
Bruce Smith Irving Johnson Kerry Omand

Guests: David Hickey Tom Davidson Phil Roy Phil Auger

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:05 pm. A motion was made by Liz and seconded by Dave to accept the November 2010 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations

Request by Kooauke Island Residents to repair existing boat ramp to the east of the bridge while the lake water is drawn down. David Hickey, Tom Davidson and Phil Roy were present to ask for permission. Approved by consensus.

Phil Auger

Evans Mountain news: Phil announced that an LChip grant for \$150,000.00 was awarded to help pay for the Evans Mountain Conservation Project!

The next crucial grant award will be announced on December 15 or 16. That will be a request for \$350,000.00 from ARM (Aquatic Resources Mitigation).

Phil then outlined what we need to do as the next steps in settling ownership and boundaries of this land. At present, the 1015 acres is owned by a partnership of the Town, Blue Hills Foundation and Bear-Paw Regional Greenways. A few of the Commissioners need to meet with George Lovejoy to discuss options and come up with a final plan. Phil has offered his office in Brentwood as a convenient meeting place. Findings will be shared with the full Commission then shared at a public meeting for a vote on final decisions.

IRCR Issues: First the good news - the Conservation Commission received the Moose Plate Grant designed by JB Cullen and Bob Edmonds to do the educational trail work on the IRCR. The plans were presented to the Commission last year.

In doing the annual monitoring of the IRCR, Phil found that an abutter put up a fence into the property by about 30 feet last year and has not removed it as requested. Harmony will write a letter to the offender.

Phil also found that another abutter has dumped tree debris on the property, continues to mow lawn that is over the property line, has a shooting target, deer stand, a new fence and an active ATV trail into the land. Harmony will write a letter. She, Phil and Dave Perkins will visit and rewalk the lines with this offender.

Phil noted that the gates on the IRCR have been installed by the snowmobile club. He said they were very good, expensive gates, but is worried that the locks may be tampered with. Kerry will check with Don Clifford about a better means of installation of the locks. Dave Perkins found the "No wheeled, motorized vehicles" signs that we have been looking for. He will mount and put up the eight signs. Thank you Dave.

Bedford Lot: Phil also noted that the snowmobile club did some nice work on the trail through the Bedford Lot. He offered a design for the wetlands crossing that was talked about in an previous meeting. Kerry asked permission for a temporary fix for this winter. All materials used will be biodegradable. Permission granted.

King and Eliasberg Properties: Both properties have a restoration component to the Wetland's grant money. We need to remove approximately 2000 feet of barbed wire and cut fallen trees into logs in eight foot lengths so they won't get caught in the river channel during a flood. There are a number of drainage channels dug during the early settlement period that need to be blocked (possibly with the logs) to help restore the wetlands. This can be done next summer.

DES applications: Liz had a request from the new property owners to rebuild and repair an existing stone wall in front of a cottage on Bow Lake. Approved by consensus.

Old Business

Town Forest

Trail blazing expedition - Wait until spring to repaint the blazes on the trees.

Bridge news - Charlie Moreno met with the engineers on the site. Work on the bridge will have to wait until next spring.

New Business

Applications - The Selectmen have instituted a process for recommending and applying for membership on Town boards. Liz distributed an application form to Kerry Omand whom we are recommending as a regular Commissioner having been an active participant over this past year as Alternate.

Standing Committee Reports none

Summary/Adjournment

Next meeting date: Monday, January 3, 2011

7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page