



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

September 18, 2012 Minutes (Approved)

Present: Ellie Davidson, Betsy Kruse, Deb Levesque, Dennis Lewis, Judi Lindsey, Susan Wilderman, M. Alberu (Alt.), Richard Snow (Alt.)

Guests: Al Hall, Jim Lindsey

The 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.

Regular Business

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting (August 21, 2012): Betsy noted that Andria Hansen did an excellent job of transcribing the minutes from a recording and Mimi Alberu's notes.

Page 5, Item 2 (Scenic Byway) – Ellie Davidson noted an error in the date of the next meeting; this will be corrected under that item. Page 5, Item 4 (Newsletter) – the fourth sentence should read as follows: "Chair Betsy Kruse replied unless they have a specific plan it shouldn't go in there." The fifth sentence should read: "Judi Lindsey thought they should include the Hemlock Forest walk and the Kinnicum Pond walk with Dick Weeks. Judi Lindsey moved to approve the minutes as amended, Ellie Davidson seconded. The motion passed with 7 in favor and one abstention.

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

Critchett Project – The project is completed. Ellie Davidson mentioned that a town resident remarked that the CCC shouldn't have paid for the Critchett easement. There are residents that don't want the conservation fund to be expended to purchase land for easements. Susan Wilderman pointed out there is a difference between the CCC approaching landowners vs. the landowners initiating a project. She stated that buying easements for assessed land values is not sustainable over the long range. Dennis Lewis expressed concern that this will be perceived as the CCC somehow trying to persuade landowners to put easements on their land.

Pepper Project – The closing will take place with RCCD in a few days. Dick Snow will ask the Peppers to attend the next CCC meeting and Judi Lindsey will take photos. Judi Lindsey will ask Selectman Soares where the plaque is (that was taken down when the conference room was painted) so the

two easements on Critchett Road can be added – Critchett, Lot 345, 38 acres, and Pepper, Lot 376, 54 acres.

Kevin Dumont (Liquid Planet) – Susan Wilderman found some information from the Planning Board. There is no mention in the PB minutes regarding a conservation easement or an occupancy permit. No easement has been finalized; there is a draft easement from 2007. DES wanted him to submit a management plan because of proximity to the river, but he didn't have the funds. Betsy Kruse asked Judi Lindsey to take a copy of the recent DES letter to the next PB meeting. Dick Snow has contacted DES to extend the deadline for taking action.

Betsy Kruse remarked that if the Town held the easement the onus would be on CCC to monitor it. Kevin needs to find a land trust if he wants to donate the easement. She suggested we should notify the BOS about our recommendation because we were copied on the DES letter. Dick Snow will work with Kevin (in his role as a Selectman) to find a land trust. Betsy Kruse requested a motion for the recommendation; Deb Levesque moved that the CCC recommend to the BOS that the Town of Candia not hold the Conservation Easement for the Liquid Planet property owned by Kevin Dumont. The motion was seconded by Judi Lindsey. Further discussion noted that there would be potential legal and financial liability if the Town gets involved. The motion carried unanimously.

Water Protection Grant – Dick Snow displayed a map with the Kinnicum Pond boundaries; the map shows two lots but the deed shows they are one lot that reaches all the way to the railroad bed. Several abutting lots are good candidates for conservation. The railroad bed is privately owned. All these candidates can be combined into a very large parcel. Susan Wilderman suggested that the Town is not interested in buying conservation land. Betsy Kruse mentioned there is a possible project on a main road in the future. She questioned whether a motion is needed to table this grant process indefinitely. The consensus was that a formal vote was not needed, but we will not go forward with a Water Protection project at this time.

3. Wetlands Permit Applications: No wetland permit applications at this time.
4. Land use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issue/Planning Board – (See Liquid Planet above.)
5. Correspondence – there was a bill from the Town for legal expenses concerning the Critchett and Pepper easements; Dick Snow moved to pay the bill, seconded by Susan Wilderman. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Budget – Dick Snow submitted a \$2,400 level budget. Betsy Kruse asked whether we still had \$300 to pay for the newsletter from this year's budget. It appears we will have to wait until December or January to print the newsletter. There are no warrant articles to submit to the BOS.
7. CCC Web site – Betsy Kruse contacted Jim Di Maggio and made some specific suggestions for updates. She suggested other CCC members also look at site.
8. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives – the Gundalow Piscataqua offers special three-hour sails that travel up-river on select mornings and afternoons throughout the fall. The Sunset Concert and Lecture Series continues through the fall with speakers and guests.

Old Business

9. Bear Paw – the Board meeting has been moved to 9/25; guests are invited to attend a Twitter workshop before the meeting. The Round Table will not be at old Griffinbrook location. Phil Auger will lead the walk to Isinglas Reserve. The Annual meeting will be on the last Saturday in January at Coe-Brown Academy. Mary Holland will be the keynote speaker. She is the author of a book about environmental changes each month of the year.
10. Forest Management – no update at this time.

Other Business

11. Outreach/Walk to Kinnicum Pond – We will meet at 12:30 at Flint Road on Oct. 14th, dress appropriately for muddy conditions. The walk will begin at the rangeway. Judi Lindsey will prepare some publicity.
12. Amphibian crossing signs – Dennis Lewis will have an update for next meeting.
13. SELTNH workshop offer – this is a possible collaborative workshop with Bear Paw, UNH, and DES to inform landowners about conservation options. There are possible grant funds available for this workshop.
14. Scenic Byway –The next meeting is on Oct. 2nd at Raymond HS. It appears each town will have to vote for final inclusion. Susan Wilderman suggested collaborating with the Heritage Commission to inform the BOS.
15. Newsletter – Betsy Kruse requested an article on the Kinnicum Pond walk. Judi Lindsey will write a short piece and take pictures. Dick Snow will write an article about the new easements. All will get back to Betsy Kruse with additional suggestions.

Judi Lindsey moved to adjourn at 8:42, seconded by Susan Wilderman. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Alberu
Conservation Commission Clerk