



Town of Candia
Conservation Commission
74 High Street
Candia, New Hampshire, 03034
April 16, 2013 Minutes (Approved)

Present: Ellie Davidson, Dave Ickes, Betsy Kruse, Dennis Lewis, Judi Lindsey, Mimi Alberu (Alt.), Dick Snow (Alt.), Susan Wilderman;

Guest: Mark Pepper

The meeting was called to order by Chair Betsy Kruse at 7:02 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Dick Snow was seated as a voting member.

Public Comment Period

There were no questions or comments presented at the meeting.

Regular Business

1. Minutes of previous meetings (February 19, 2013)

The following corrections were made:

Page 4 – Old Business – change “the site” to “the Conservation Area on New Boston Rd.”

Page 4 – Other Business – change Al Hall to Al Mun.

Judy Lindsey moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Ellie Davidson. The motion passed with six in favor and one abstention.

2. Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status

Liquid Planet CE – Kevin Dumont is installing boundary markers for the conservation area as required by RCCD; needs to review uses for the area with RCCD so the easement language can be finalized. This will probably take about a month. He will probably ask the CCC to consider paying the transaction costs. Susan Wilderman remarked that this is unusual for a commercial venture; Betsy Kruse observed that the BOS would have to concur, and the Town would likely hold a backup easement. It was noted that it was the Planning Board that required him to conserve a buffer by the river, and now DES is enforcing the requirement. Mark Pepper asked why these costs wouldn't be paid from the general fund if the easement was mandated by the Planning Board. This option will require further consideration. The

consensus was to wait for further information, including the final easement language and transaction costs, before presenting the issue to the Board of Selectmen.

Ken Hoffman – he is in discussions with Bear-Paw; no action until project forms are finalized.

Project forms – Susan Wilderman, Ellie Davidson, and Mimi Alberu met on March 12 to draft new forms for objective criteria for project evaluation. After some discussion it was decided that the subcommittee would make some revisions and bring a new draft to the next meeting.

3. Wetlands Permit Applications – None at this time

4. Land Use/Wetlands/Enforcement Issues/Planning Board

John Cole and Scott Komisarek coming back to the next Planning Board meeting for a continuance on their request for a variance on maximum building height at their 55+ housing development. The new owners of the former Pleasant Hill Landscaping property on 33 Raymond Rd. have submitted a major site plan application with the intent to build a 3,000 sq. ft. addition to the existing building.

Results of Warrant Article #2 and implications – the article failed.

5. Correspondence – we received an email from Barry Conservation Camp; their programs cost \$485. We had discussed in the past whether CCC could fund a campership, but it is not in this year's budget. We will consider this at the September meeting for 2014 budget planning, as well as the process for selecting a student. No additional correspondence.

Saving Special Places conference results – Ellie Davidson, Dick Snow and Mark Pepper attended. This year's conference had the highest attendance to date. Ellie Davidson attended a session on monitoring easements. Mark Pepper attended a session on Current Use tax impact, and who can "trump" an easement.

6. Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices

- \$67.98 invoice from Mimi Alberu for February administrative work. Dick Snow moved to pay the invoice, seconded by Judi Lindsey. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ellie Davidson (\$60) and Dick Snow (\$60 plus 90 miles mileage), invoices for conference attendance. Judi Lindsey moved to pay the invoices, seconded by Dave Ickes. The motion passed unanimously. This will be paid from the education portion of the budget.

7. Conservation Commission Website – Conservation Easements, Open Space Plan

The Open Space Plan is still not on the site, and there are still references to the Open Space Committee on the Town Website; Dave Ickes will follow up with Jim Dimaggio. Links should be added for SELTNH and NH Natural Heritage Inventory.

8. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives – Dick Snow attended a public meeting pertaining to the open comment period for EPA MS4 small town permits. There are 20 additional coastal

communities that will be subject to the MS4 (multiple storm system) permits. Larger towns must separate their storm sewers from their drinking water and other sewers. Candia has received a form letter from DES to use to request an exemption, however EPA hasn't yet approved any of these. The permits would be good for 5-7 years. Initially they are a vehicle to inform the public why the runoff from their land is problematic for downstream communities. Candia is at the headwaters for a significant number of other communities, so it would be a good idea to start thinking about ways to mitigate runoff as part of the planning process. Dennis Lewis remarked that Chester has an approval and they are exempt. He further noted that there only two small areas in Candia, Hook Road and Crowley Road, that the permit would pertain to.

Old Business

1. Bear-Paw Status Report – there is an outdoor skills workshop on April 27 from 9-2 at the Bear-Paw office for anyone interested in being a Bear-Paw volunteer easement monitor.

An auction Committee has formed; the next auction is November 2nd. Various other committees are looking for volunteers – publicity, logistics, seeking donors.

2. Forest Management / Plans for Town Land / Stewardship

Dennis Lewis hasn't heard from Charlie Moreno regarding a forest management plan; he will follow up. He has not purchased posts for signs yet, but will do so for the properties that are being managed. The money will come from the forest management fund. He will also remove the downed tree on New Boston Road.

Bridge over the Lamprey river at the New Boston Road Conservation Area – a contact person is needed but there is no one available to take on this project at this time; we also need to identify funding sources, such as possible grants.

Patrick Mun's Eagle Scout project – Mark West is apparently working with Patrick.

Other Business

1. CCC Warrant article vote results – Ellie Davidson suggested a letter in the local papers thanking those that voted in favor of the article. Betsy Kruse suggested that CCC members think of ways to expand our public relations efforts.
2. Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway update – Ellie Davidson attended the last meeting on April 11th; there is no longer any funding from DOT, however the map has been revised and the Heritage Commission may take this project on for Candia.
3. CIP report – no action at this time
4. 250th Town anniversary

We are still considering a Candia Day Walk to Kinnicum pond duplicating as closely as possible the walk described in the Eaton town history. Another possibility would be a tour of former mill sites using Diane Philbrick and Jim Lindsey's book as a guide. Susan Wilderman will see if the Heritage Commission would be interested in collaborating to plan activities. Betsy Kruse also suggested using social media to promote the event(s).

5. Outreach – Amphibian crossing signs, text, posting sites

Susan Wilderman's students have completed nine signs. Dennis Lewis will provide grade stakes for the signs. She is looking for volunteers to place them in designated locations.

6. Updated list of CCC members, renewals

Dick Snow moved to recommend Mark Pepper to the BOS as an alternate member of CCC, Ellie Davidson seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mimi Alberu will send a letter to the BOS. Judi Lindsey and Betsy Kruse need to submit letters of intent to renew. Betsy Kruse also mentioned that we need to hold elections for officers next month, including Chair, Vice-chair, and Treasurer.

New items – Betsy Kruse stated that we need to start monitoring the properties the CCC supervises; Ellie Davidson mentioned that UNH students could also do this for academic credit. Mark Pepper suggested a question of the month for publication: "Does the status of current use property change when it is placed into a conservation easement?" (The answer is no, it does not, because neither the use nor the ownership of the property changes.)

Chair Betsy Kruse requested a motion to adjourn. Judi Lindsey made the motion, seconded by Susan Wilderman. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Alberu

Mimi Alberu
Conservation Commission Clerk

