



Town of Candia
Conservation Commission
74 High Street
Candia, New Hampshire, 03034
September 17, 2013 Minutes (Unapproved)

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

Guests: Teresa McNamee, Student Conservation Association; Ken Hoffman and Phil Auger.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by co-Chair Mark Pepper, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment Period

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) performs projects for area towns each summer. The CCC invited Teresa Mc Namee, Program Director for the NH Corps, to give a presentation to the group. She described the SCA's youth and young adult programs and reviewed some of the history of the organization. The NH Corps' education program is an Americorps partnership based at Bear Brook State Park, primarily serving 4th and 5th grades in Manchester and Allentown schools. There are eight state parks this year participating in the program. The young adults in the program (18-25 age group) teach high school students. They serve about 50 students; roughly half are immigrant and refugee students. There are Saturday projects based in Manchester, in collaboration with the Massabesic Audubon Center.

Betsy Kruse asked what the lead time is for signing up for projects. Right now there are only two assigned for 2014, so there are openings available. An adult 20-day hitch for a six-person crew with supervision typically costs about \$20K. Some materials are included. Projects start in late June and go through October. Betsy Kruse mentioned a possible bog bridging project at Kinnicum Pond. She asked Teresa to talk about procuring grants. Teresa is available to help develop a budget and write and review grant applications. She is not sure whether the New Boston bridge would be feasible. Phil Auger mentioned that Strafford used the Rec Trails program (through Parks), a matching grant program, for the Isinglass trail.

Hoffman project – Phil Auger, Ken Hoffman

Phil Auger presented the budget estimate for the Hoffman project. He gave the CCC the alternative of covering the transaction costs and/or the cost of the easement. Mark Pepper stated he would be in favor of covering the \$15K in transaction costs. Dick Snow stated that we would not have to get BOS approval to fund the \$1,500 appraisal fee. There had been some question about road frontage affecting development rights. There is 50' of frontage that would be grandfathered. Ken Hoffman asked when he would have to repay the \$1,500 if he turned down an offer. It was understood from previous easements that the property

owner does not have to repay the money until they sell the property. Mark Pepper moved to support the transaction costs, seconded by Judi Lindsey. Discussion mentioned that we would have to present the project again to the BOS. The motion passed unanimously.

Dennis Lewis asked Phil Auger if he thought there was any likelihood of finding external funding. Phil Auger responded that the PSNH corridor expansion project is a possible source.

Regular Business

1. Minutes of previous meetings (August 20, 2013)

Betsy Kruse explained some amendments to the minutes. Dick Snow moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Judi Lindsey. The motion passed with Ellie Davidson and Susan Wilderman abstaining.

2. Conservation Land/Easement(s) Acquisition Status

See Hoffman Project above.

Project procedures

The BOS requested additional time to review procedures and approve them at the Sept. 23rd meeting. Mark Pepper will solicit any feedback or suggested changes. He will then present the Hoffman project. Betsy Kruse emphasized that project's contribution to open space plan goals. Susan Wilderman suggested bringing the completed project criteria to the meeting. Mimi Alberu can give Mark Pepper a copy. We will inform the BOS that per our procedure we will expend \$1,500 for an appraisal and come back to present the development value.

3. Wetlands Permit Applications

Dennis Lewis is submitting applications for routine maintenance to two culverts.

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

The next Planning Board meeting is 9/18. There were no ZRRC meetings or suggestions.

5. Correspondence

DES – there was a permit application for a culvert on Chester Road, and the DES newsletter.

6. Budget Update/Approval of outstanding payments/invoices

2014 Budget proposal – the BOS voted to fund the CCC budget at the same level as last year. The draft budget will go to the Budget Committee to make a final recommendation for the town ballot in March.

Judi Lindsey moved to pay Mimi Alberu \$50.28 for August administrative services, seconded by Betsy Kruse. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Conservation Commission Website (Sample CE posted/COSC info revised on town site)

Dave Ickes was not present to report on the status of the Web site.

8. Lamprey River Water Quality Initiatives

Lamprey River Watershed Association – Dick Snow reported on the Great Bay Estuary Gundalow cruise, and 30th anniversary dinner to be held later in October. The Advisory Committee has submitted input to DES on the PSNH project.

Old Business

1. Land Trust Report

The Bear-Paw Growing the Greenways Auction is November 2nd. A list of auction items is on the Bear-Paw Web site, <http://www.bear-paw.org/events-news/upcoming-events.asp>. A Roundtable on November 12th will focus on the NRI (Natural Resource Inventory) mapping project. There is also a family outing in October at the Cumings Conservation Center on South Road.

2. Forest Management / Plans for Town Land / Stewardship

Charlie Moreno will try to finish the forest management plan for the Hemlock Drive town forest. Mark Pepper and Dennis Lewis will try to get the sign posts for conservation land parcels installed Oct. 6th.

Patrick Mun's Eagle Scout project – the initial walk through the Deerfield Road Town Forest is scheduled for 9/22 as part of the Candia 250th celebration. Flyers have been posted around town and on the Web.

Other Business

1. 250th Town anniversary – Chris Bogard is giving a presentation at the Smyth Library about the last 300 years of NH wildlife.
2. Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway update – no update at this time.
3. CIP report – no update at this time.
4. Farmers' Market – no update at this time.
5. Newsletter – articles are needed for the newsletter. Dick Snow will write an article addressing the \$25,000 annual cap on LUCT funds that are added to the Conservation Fund. Judi Lindsey will write about the fall walk in the Deerfield Road Town Forest. Susan Wilderman will write about wildlife crossing signs placed around town this year, and the new conservation easement criteria and procedures.
6. Monitoring town properties – Betsy Kruse distributed a list of town properties, highlighting the ones the CCC is responsible for. It was suggested the list be split up among members to go walk the properties, and invite the public to participate. Susan Wilderman will walk the Fogerty Road properties. Joe Miele and Joe Colette will walk the New Boston property. Mark Pepper will walk Donovan Road and Dennis Lewis will walk North Road.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark Pepper at 9 pm, seconded by Judi Lindsey; the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Alberu
Candia Conservation Commission Secretary

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