

**Campton Conservation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 12, 2013; 7:30 pm**

**Commissioners Present:** Jess Halm, Alisoun Hodges, Jane Kellogg, Tammy Wooster

Before the meeting, the group met at Jess' house to move the CCC library and files into the new town office. The meeting followed with Alisoun serving as chair.

1. **May Minutes:**

Jess made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes. Jane seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2. **New Building Details:**

Jane received two new keys from Ann Marie, one to access the North Side Community Room door, and one for the glass case in the front hallway to display CCC materials.

Jane reported that we are still unable to access the internet at this time. Just today, Ann Marie and Ron Reynolds looked around the IT room and discovered that the cables necessary to connect the meeting room outlets to the server bank were not hooked up yet. Up until now, Ann Marie was under the assumption that the meeting room outlets were functional. Discussion of the need for various groups to access the internet ensued, and all were surprised that others have not expressed a need for connectivity. Jane noted that PRLAC just posted the revised Pemi River Corridor Management Plan online, which would be useful to access during Planning Board meetings. Additionally, the ability to access online state regulations would be useful to many groups, and in the event of a major town wide emergency, the meeting room would be used as an emergency planning space and presumably internet would be a necessity. All agreed that without internet access, we will continue to be limited in accomplishing certain tasks, and hope to resolve this oversight soon. Lastly, now that we have moved our filing cabinet in, Jess will ask Ann Marie if she would be willing to leave CCC mail in a folder on top of the cabinet.

3. **Conservation Column:**

Jess reported that the final details of the soon to be monthly column in the Record Enterprise have been worked out with editor Brendan Berube. The column will be called Conservation Matters, and will be written by various local conservation groups including the Campton, Holderness, Plymouth, and Rumney Commissions, PRLAC, and potentially Quincy Bog.

The column will be limited to 1,000 words, with a submission deadline of the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. All agreed that chosen topics should be non-political, or neutral in content, with a focus on conservation education. There was some discussion as to whether the participating groups should all review the columns to ensure neutrality before going to print, but all agreed that it would be labor intensive to manage and we will just see how it goes for now. Jess added that articles may be reprints from conservation professionals, as long as they are not taken from a copyrighted publication. Campton will take the lead in submitting the first column, and Jess will get the ball rolling for us.

4. **Friends List:**

We had planned on reviewing and updating the CCC web page together and were again unable to do so without internet. Tammy will review the web page at home and send edits to Beverly along with the "Friends of the CCC" list which Jess will forward.

5. **Update on Livermore Falls/Campton side:**

After the last meeting of the Livermore Falls Stakeholders Group, action items were determined, all of which focused on the Holderness side of the falls. Alisoun, who attended the meeting, brought this to our attention and was concerned that the Campton side of the river was not adequately being addressed. Subsequently, we planned a site visit to the Livermore Gorge to come up with a list of Campton specific concerns to bring to the next stakeholders meeting.

Jane had sent an e-mail around inviting the Historical Society, Police and Fire Departments to join us. (others Jane?) On June 3<sup>rd</sup> Alisoun, Jane, and Tammy met at the site and looked around closely. Despite the lack of attendance from the other groups invited, we were able to come up with a list of potential projects, problem areas, and questions.

Jane compiled these concerns and created handouts that she and Alisoun brought to the 6/5 Livermore Falls Stakeholders meeting. Jane and Alisoun reported that the concerns were well accepted, and since that time, another site visit to both sides

of the falls was conducted by Jane, Bill Carpenter from DRED, and PRLAC representatives. Jane said that Bill Carpenter was extremely enthusiastic about the area's potential and is now leading the effort, having already contacted various state agencies to get answers to our questions.

Jane passed out copies of an e-mail from Bill complete with responses to our questions to date.

Apparently, Ben Wilson from State parks has been focusing on the East side for a possible day use park, and is now leading the effort to promote the historical aspects of the west side. We learned that since crossing the active railroad is considered trespassing by state law, consultation is needed with DOT Bureau of Rails. Bill's response to our question of who is responsible for cleaning up and possibly replacing the torn down/broken fence was that it would require a competitive bid contract and money. Ben Wilson is also looking into this.

Bill has a call into DOT to address our question of potential parking along Rt.3 and unclear signage. To expand on this, Jane said she had a phone conversation with Bill and learned that the south end of the parking area is owned by the Becket School. Bill asked Jane for Becket School contacts to discuss the potential for allowing DOT to design and create a new parking area. Jane gave Bill the name of the Becket School Director and we are waiting to hear of a meeting. Another exciting development Bill shared with Jane is that DRED is considering an over-pass pedestrian bridge to provide public access while avoiding the railroad issues. A State Park architect has been contacted and is enthusiastic about the possibility of designing the foot bridge.

The subject of down wood and brush was discussed next. We noticed brush and tree cutting during our site visit and we asked who ordered the cutting and if it could be cleaned up, since our thought was that leaving the wood may encourage burning in fire pits which requires a permit. We learned from Bill that the trees were cut at the request of Chief Warn and a state Trails Bureau maintenance crew did the work. Apparently the trees were a hazard since some were overhanging the river and people were climbing/swinging off of them. Discussion of potential ways to get rid of the wood was had, and the group wondered if it would be possible to find people who would be willing to carry out the material suitable for firewood, and potentially secure a permit to burn the rest on site. Jane will follow up with Bill on this.

Alisoun noted that we still don't know who exactly owns the pumpkinseed bridge, which she has thought all along is owned by the town. Bill's response was that research indicates that the town of Campton may own the bridge, but the state is responsible for the maintenance, management and planning of the site (in concert with the Friends Group, Town of Campton, and others). Alisoun suggested that we contact the Registry of Deeds.

Two final Livermore Falls Stakeholders meeting items discussed were planning for a River Cleanup Day and a charrette.

The River Cleanup event will take place on August 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning in Campton above the falls down to the Livermore Beach along Great Island and down to the Amphitheater and South Beach. Cleanup begins at 8 am and there are hopes that this will be incorporated into Campton Old Home Day planning.

The Plymouth Rotary is evaluating the potential for doing a community outreach charrette this fall, potentially with a grant from PlanNH.

Alisoun closed the Livermore Falls discussion by expressing excitement for the project and the progress that has been made to date. All agreed and Jane noted that while there are still many questions and things to work out, we may have started something that will eventually lead to some positive action in the area, though it will certainly take time. Jane will forward a copy of the Campton concerns list including Bill Carpenter's responses to the Select Board, PD, FD, Historical Society, and Jim Aguiar.

#### 6. **Other Business:**

Jess opened a bill from PRLAC requesting dues, and Jane confirmed that this had already been paid. Alisoun shared a corrected version of the Record Enterprise posting of our meeting dates which had formerly been listed as Conservation Committee and now reads Conservation Commission.

Tammy reported that Amanda Stone requested a 2 paragraph summary of fall/winter Bog Pond Outreach work for the Cooperative Extension June Newsletter. Tammy wrote the summary using Lea Stewart's Newspaper article as a template.

We have received the invoice from the Rey Center requesting financial support for Nature Nights. Tammy recalled that we already voted to make the expenditure, so Jess will bring the invoice to Ann Marie for payment.

Jane reminded the group that she will be attending the July 2<sup>nd</sup> Planning Board meeting with North Country Council's Tara Bamford to present the updated Pemi River Corridor Management Plan, and invited others to join them. Tara will encourage the Planning Board to take a look at what other towns do and don't have in terms of river protections.

Finally, our next meeting is July 10<sup>th</sup>, which conflicts with a new Northern Pass documentary to be shown at The Flying

Monkey. All agreed to meet at 5 pm instead of 7 , and following our meeting we will go see the documentary together. Jess will ask Ann Marie how to properly announce a meeting time change. Jane will chair our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 9:10pm  
Next meeting July 10, 2013  
**TIME CHANGE to 5:00 pm!**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Wooster