

Campton Conservation Commission Minutes

September 12, 2007

7:30pm

Members present: Jules Doner, Lisa Doner, Melissa Greenawalt-Yelle, Jess Halm, Jane Kellogg

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm

FYI Items:

- CHS Heritage Day, September 29th, 1-4pm. Melissa will have a table of info about the CCC at this event. Also, we have donated a guided walk at BWNA with a picnic lunch for the silent auction.
- Planning Board Update: the PB has requested a Water Supply Professional from DES to come and speak at the next work session, on October 2nd at 7:30pm. Jane will send contact info to May for arranging this. CCC and CVP members may wish to attend this presentation.
- Bog area conservation initiative: Patrick Miller has been in direct contact with TNC about the possibility of an easement holding in the Campton Bog area. Work is underway to involve area residents in broadening this effort.
- DES Public Water Supply Speaker: September 25, 7pm, Boyd Hall Room 001. This has been arranged by the Pemi River Local Advisory Committee. This may be a good opportunity to learn more about drinking water protection options in Campton, and to follow up on a memo that Jules received recently regarding public drinking water protection.
- Leah Gray will be featured on NH Chronicle, September 13th, 7:30pm, WMUR
- Trout Unlimited site visit, August 23rd: Lisa attended this site review, which included reps from the EPA, Fish and Game, developers, engineers, and trout unlimited members. Trout Unlimited has secured \$500,000 of funding to redesign a portion of the Pemi River channel in Woodstock to enhance the trout habitat in that area. Lisa has contact info for the Bozeman, MT based engineering firm that will be heading up this project.
- Upcoming workshop opportunities: NC Council Annual Meeting on Wednesday, October 17th; NHACC on November 3rd; Clean Air-Cool Planet on October 12-13th. Registration can be reimbursed by funds budgeted for education.
- Hannah has had several inquiries from a concerned Thornton resident regarding the fill behind the Great American Ski Rental Company shop on Rte. 49. Jane will make an inquiry with the shop owner and follow-up as necessary. The PB may also be interested in this, if the fill is intended to increase space for a parking lot.

Land Conservation Projects:

- Tuck property: after substantial negotiation, the landowner has decided against placing an easement on the property. The CCC discussed some continuing questions regarding the work to conserve this property for the sake of drinking water protection to this point, and will work with the CVP to tie up all loose ends on the project and ensure that Campton's public drinking water supply is safe.
- Yankee Land: representatives from the Trust for Public Land and the Squam Lakes Conservation Society attended the most recent Selectboard meeting to discuss possible conservation action on a 6,299 acre parcel in Campton and Sandwich that has recently been put on the market. The Selectboard was unanimously in favor of conserving the land, and agreed to sign a letter of support that TPL will draft. The CCC will also draft letters of support to help with grant seeking for the project. There is an interest in conserving a portion of the Campton land as a town forest. The CCC discussed the value of having a Campton representative, possibly a selectperson, serve on the steering committee for this project to be sure that the town's questions and concerns are addressed. A local community member, George Wright, attended the Selectboard meeting and expressed an interest and willingness to help with this project as the need arises.

General business:

- The last invoice for services rendered by Tom Howard for negotiation on the Tuck property was received. Jules made a motion to pay \$451.25, which represents our share of the cost (50% split with CVP). The motion was seconded by Jess, and passed unanimously. Jane will arrange for payment, and send along a letter of thanks.
- Jules will work to further investigate Protected River Signage for Campton's two Pemi River crossings, on Rte. 49 and Blair Bridge.
- BWNA: a workday was set for Thursday, September 20th to make kiosk updates and take care of general trail maintenance work. Leah Gray has generously offered a mini-gift to cover the cost of an improvement project on the property. New signs on the trails and near the road were discussed as a possibility. Bring ideas for sign design to next meeting.
- Jess passed around a well-wishes note for Jim Blake to be signed. Melissa will send a card on our behalf to Ron Landry.
- Lisa will research what is involved in having our public drinking water wellheads protected by DES. Plymouth has gone through this process recently and will be a good resource.
- Jess signed a letter of support for a Research Experience for Undergraduates project that has been submitted to NSF for funding by PSU and the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation. The research experience would include ecological research projects that had some outreach component to local communities. The letter was signed by representatives from the Campton and Woodstock Conservation Commissions.
- Jess will write up a small piece about BWNA to be included in the Campton-Thornton News in the Record Enterprise.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55pm

Next Meeting: October 10, 2007 at 7:30pm