

Campton Conservation Commission Minutes

June 11, 2008; 7:30 p.m.

Commissioners present: Jessica Halm, Melissa Greenawalt-Yelle, Jane Kellogg, Jules Doner, Lisa Doner, Tammy Wooster

Others present: George Wright

- 1) **Updating Campton's GIS database:** Lisa had a conversation with Michelle Therrien who has been hired by the town of Meredith to create GIS user maps. It was recognized that Campton does not have the same resources as Meredith and so creative measures must be pursued to bring Campton's GIS database up to date. Lisa mentioned that there was a potential for partnering with PSU students who need to complete a community project as a degree requirement. Jess had heard of a NH Audubon pilot program that involved GIS work in Salisbury and a few other NH towns. She will follow up with Audubon and ask if someone would be able to attend a future meeting to share the details of this program. Lisa will ask Michelle Therrien if she is willing and or able to discuss her Meredith map work with us at a meeting as well. Jane will invite the planning board if this joint presentation is possible. It was emphasized that if we are to request money from the town for GIS work, a case needs to be made that GIS is capable of producing an end product that is of use to the town.
- 2) **CCC Website:** A few typos were identified and all agreed that improvements could be made to more efficiently direct people to our website. We will be thinking of ways to enhance the site and make it more user friendly and accurate before we meet for a work session scheduled for June 30th, 7:30 pm at Jess' house.
- 3) **CSPA practice session:** Tammy is still trying to enlist the help of DES in conducting a Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Act practice session. She has identified the contact person as Jason Aube and left several messages, but has yet to connect with him.
- 4) **Town regulation language discussion:**
 - a. Wind turbines: Jane found some useful information on the State OEP (Office of Energy and Planning) website detailing examples of wind turbine regulatory language. She reported that the Planning board will be conducting a work session on July 1st to begin to look at Campton's wind turbine language and to determine how to shape it for future ordinances. All agreed that this was a proactive approach on the part of the planning board to what is likely to become a common issue in the future. It was also discussed that this strategy should apply to other alternative energy sources.
 - b. Water resource protection: Jane shared an OEP publication titled "A Model for Groundwater Protection Ordinances". Many NH towns have used this as a resource in their groundwater protection planning, and we discussed how it would be a good time for Campton to begin this process. The focus of the publication is to educate businesses potentially impacting groundwater sources and conducting yearly inspections. It makes sense to involve the Village precinct in this

initiative, and so Jane will invite Gary Benedix to our next meeting and mention our intentions to the Planning Board.

5. FYI:

a. BWNA work day follow up: Melissa will be sending a Thank You card to Reed Harrigan for all of his help. Jules did some more staining touch ups and only has the sign ends to complete. Jane reported that the PD was notified of the vandalism as well as some neighbors. She will follow up with the rest of the neighbors. Ian & Jess will cut out a missed poplar tree from one of the trails.

b. Coverts Workshop: This UNH & others sponsored workshop is free and is held in Sept. Its focus is on managing forests and grasslands with an emphasis on wildlife management. It is designed for large landowners so spread the word to anyone who is interested.

c. CCC resources at town library: The town librarian was amenable to the idea of moving our publications to the library. He offered to dedicate a shelf for this purpose and to barcode the publications so that they may be checked in/out.

d. Eastern Corners off-roading activity: Lisa reported that she has contacted DES who has regulatory authority on this issue, and is waiting to hear back. Fish & Game is also aware of this problem area. Since local teenagers are the suspected off-roaders, it was agreed that a physical barrier would be the most effective deterrent, as well as signs posted detailing the hefty fines imposed if caught.

e. Ace of Spades snow removal update: Nothing new to report from the parties involved. Moving forward the short term plan is to send the storage unit owner a snow dumping fact sheet, some watershed postcards, and a cover letter requesting that he distribute some educational materials to his renters. The long term plan is to adopt groundwater protection language in the form of an ordinance in conjunction with the CVP/Planning board.

f. Patrick Miller/PBLT update: Jane reported that a productive meeting was had with Patrick Miller, Bob Berti and Charlie Chandler, and that the PBLT was enthusiastic about becoming a trust for lands in Campton. Berti and Chandler will follow up with/ report to their committee and a future site visit will be scheduled. Patrick Miller will send a formal letter to the PBLT stating his intentions. It is expected that Patrick will eventually come to us for conservation fund monies to cover some of the expenses.

g. Bioblitz recap: Melissa participated in this Squam Lake Science Center event and reported a good turnout despite the hot and wet weather. Melissa will share species counts/sightings in Campton when they are available.

h. ZBA meeting on wind turbine: An Ellsworth resident's request for a wind turbine height restriction variance will be taken up at the next ZBA meeting scheduled for June 26th.

i. PB/PRLAC update: Milfoil has invaded the Pemi near Bristol. It was originally thought to have come from Squam Lake but now the source is believed to be Harper Brook which flows out of Pemi Lake. Diving/pulling efforts have begun.

j. Upcoming workshops: Weekend workshops on Avian Ecology (June 19-22), and dragonflies (July 18-20) will be conducted at High pond farm in Plymouth. For details visit www.highpondfarm.org.

Meeting adjourned 9:40 pm

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

7:30 pm

Campton Town Office