

**Campton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2010; 7:30pm**

CCC Members Present: Jess Halm, Melissa Greenawalt-Yelle, Jane Kellogg Jules Doner, Bryon Middlekauff, Tammy Wooster

1) August Minutes:

Jess made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes. Bryon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2) Groundwater Protection Update:

Just prior to our meeting, Nick Sceggell hand delivered hard copies and CD's of the application for Reclassification as well as a draft of the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan. Nick asked if CCC members could review and edit the documents and said that he would be willing to make final changes. Jess said that presumably, the Select Board will be voting on whether to submit the reclassification application at their next meeting, although we have not received official word of a vote yet. She stressed the importance of CCC representation at the meeting, in particular, to gage Select Board commitment to continued support for groundwater protection. Bryon asked whether Nick had also provided copies of the documents to the Select Board, and Jules said he would check with Ann Marie. Jane and Bryon will both review and edit the documents.

3) Land Management:

a. BWNA

i. End of summer clean-up:

Consensus was that the trails were in great shape despite heavy public use this summer. It was noted that one of the benches had been turned around to face the trail rather than the river. Jane asked Melissa to replenish the trail guide supply and both Jess and Jane requested copies for their cars so that they could resupply the box as needed.

ii. Kiosk ideas:

Melissa asked whether anyone had input for new kiosk ideas. Bryon suggested posting some BWNA winter photos and Jane added that a note could be included inviting visitors to share their BWNA shots with us.

Jess said that she still had the Trail Entrance sign that Tammy finished painting and asked for suggestions of where to hang the sign. All agreed that we would hold onto the sign for potential PCP posting.

b. PCP:

i. Sign progress:

Jane reported that the new PCP sign has been completed and is in her back yard if anyone wants to have a look. Additionally the application for posting the sign has been filed with the town. The next

steps include securing posts and materials for erecting the sign. A discussion was had regarding how long the posts should be and a total length of 16' was agreed upon. Jules has some posts for potential use but has already committed some of them for a church project and needs to confirm the length needed. A list of other materials and tools was made and included cement, lag screws, a posthole digger, and shovel bracket. Melissa will check with the Historical Society to see if there are any leftover Pattee shovels for use as a PCP sign adornment.

ii. Trail Work Day:

Sunday, September 26, 9a.m. was set as the date and time for both PCP sign erecting and trail cutting if time allows.

iii. Parking area/Driveway progress:

Given the news that town assistance in driveway work is slow in coming and may now need Select Board approval, the idea of completing the work ourselves was discussed. Jules thought that the base rocks at the driveway entrance could simply be covered with gravel and offered his trailer for ferrying loads. Jane proposed the idea of rolling the rocks aside with bars. Jess agreed that both ideas would work but thought that it was a poor use of CCC member time and preferred hiring the work out.

Melissa proposed the idea of relocating the parking area altogether, specifically next to the Blanchard House where minimal work may be needed. Melissa added that this location would invite visitors to walk across the field, past the elm tree and into the new trail network. A path could be mowed for this purpose creating a loop trail. Additionally the cars would be parked further from the Lane's property. Everyone loved Melissa's idea and a few potential issues were discussed including the need for a new driveway permit and perhaps an alternative PCP sign location.

Jess said that she needs to contact Carol Lenahan to confirm receipt of the CCC share of Elm tree funds and watering schedule specifics. She will communicate the new parking area idea to Carol and all will discuss further when the group is on site at the upcoming work day.

iv. Property boundary questioning:

CCC members have observed wood being stacked on the Lane's and potentially on CCC property as well. The deed was pulled from the filing cabinet and after reviewing the language CCC members agreed that the shape of the Lane's lot is rectangular and determining the SE corner should be straightforward. Jules will contact the Lanes and ask to set up a meeting to walk the boundaries with deed in hand and set a stake at the SE corner of their property.

The subject of mowing was also discussed. The Lane's have been mowing the town piece directly behind their house as well as the grass beyond the easterly boundary up to our mowed proposed parking area. Consensus was that mowing the piece behind the house was not problematic. It was recollected that when Clint asked if he could mow the back piece the CCC agreed, but requested the Lane's submit their wishes in writing.

4) Budget Planning:

The 2010 budget was reviewed and it included elm tree and sign expenditures. Jess noted that there was still money available for conferences which potentially could be spent on the upcoming NHACC

conference. Jess also expressed interest in delineating the PCP parking area with a split rail fence, another potential budget expenditure.

Tammy asked Melissa about the status of the BWNA photo card project. Melissa said that the project has not progressed since it is still unclear whether monies received from card sales would be considered revenue and if so would have to be deposited into the General Fund. She expressed frustration at having received conflicting information. Jess recalled discussing a potential way out of this by suggesting a donation for the cards rather than directly selling them. Melissa will continue working on this project.

5) Conservation Easements on Ellsworth Hill:

Jess reported that she had left three separate messages for an Ellsworth Hill conservation easement prospect with no return call to date. The last message detailed the potential for partnering with another neighboring landowner interested in pursuing an easement.

Jane said that she had been in e-mail contact with another landowner pursuing an easement who hopes to secure The Forest Society as the easement holder. The landowner asked for CCC financial assistance and said he would be in touch after he returns from vacation. Jane thought he may be back now and will follow up if she doesn't hear from him within the week. She added that this would be an appropriate use of Conservation Funds.

6) FYI:

a. PRLAC:

Jane reported that she had recently attended a meeting where the Pemi River Corridor Management Plan update was discussed. There was interest in sending out a survey to relevant parties about their thoughts on management, but it was unclear to whom and how to distribute the survey. Rather than mailings, there may be a website set up for this purpose. Jane thought perhaps the CCC could assist by sending a mailing to Campton riparian owners. There will be more to come on this.

b. Sponsor a Highway:

After filing the appropriate DOT paperwork a second time, Jess was told that the requested stretch of road had already been assigned. She responded by requesting only the Blair Road segment and it is once again in the works.

c. Upcoming Events:

i. On 9/14/2010 at Granite State College (6:30 pm) there will be a public meeting regarding the role of municipalities in regulating groundwater withdrawals.

ii. Be on the lookout for NHACC conference registration deadline.

Other FYI:

Melissa reported that she has observed driveway work at the Eastern Corners Rd. steep driveway site and also house construction. Jane added that the Planning Board is now involved.

Jane mentioned that the Quincy Bog folks will soon be inviting small groups for tours and asked if there was CCC interest. Jess answered yes, especially in the context of a land trust conversation.

Meeting Adjourned, 9:20pm
Next meeting October 13, 2010; 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Wooster