

**Campton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**November 12, 2008 7:00 pm**

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

1. **Groundwater Protection:** Tammy reported that the joint meeting with the CVP and DES Groundwater Specialist Pierce Rigrod is being postponed until a commitment from all is solidified. Efforts to convene everyone failed but Tammy will revisit the subject with Gary Benedix when he returns from Colorado.

2. **Budget:**

- a. Review Spending to Date/2008 Budget Issues: Melissa shared a handout of the 2008 budget breakdown and reported that \$445.60 has been spent as of Oct. with \$404.40 remaining for the year.

Out of \$200 budgeted for dues, all was spent. \$240.00 out of \$250.00 budgeted was spent for Conferences/Education. The Postage, Public Notices, Printing line item reflected nothing was spent. Melissa questioned how the CCC brochure mailing was paid for and it was determined that the expenditure came from last years budget. \$200.00 was budgeted for BWNA management, none of which was spent due to the generous donation of Leah Gray. A conversation ensued trying to recall the details of how the money was spent for the BWNA new trail sign project; that is, when and how much Jules and others were reimbursed for stain and hardware expenses. Jane will follow up and resolve these details.

As an aside, Lisa mentioned that she had recently visited the BWNA with her class for a sampling project and discovered an extensive erosion problem at the culvert on Rt.3 just south of the junction with Blair Road. The culvert has been washed out and exposed extending to the pavement leaving large erosion gulleys where it was once a grassy bank. Presumably the sediment load has travelled downstream to the BWNA wetland. Lisa also said she noticed some invasive Knotweed north of the parking area during her visit. Jess said that she had seen the erosion as well and mentioned it to a DOT friend Chris Perron. Chris told Jess to send an e-mail describing the problem and she would forward it to the appropriate person. Conveniently, Chris Perron is also knowledgeable in knotweed control and so Jess will mention it to her.

Returning to the budget discussion, it was asked whether Ian, Jess, and Jules were reimbursed for recent winterization work costs at the Pattee House. Jess said they were but she wasn't sure if the money came from the Conservation Fund or the CCC budget.

To finish up 2008 budget related business all were asked to think of any additional expenditures needed for the year. It was decided that it would be wise to purchase a roll of forever stamps for future mailings which Jess offered to do. The need for a two drawer file cabinet was discussed in particular for wetland permitting storage and a new gravel pit file. Melissa will confirm with Ann Marie that we can designate a space for this purpose and Jules will price out filing cabinets.

Next was the subject of any known imminent Pattee property expenditures. Since it was decided that an outside light is to remain on at the house, we agreed that we should look into purchasing an energy efficient fixture. Jules offered to do this. This led to the question of how to budget for electricity costs which all agreed should be clarified at the upcoming 11/17 Select Board Budget Proposal meeting.

Jess reminded us that the Protected River signs still haven't been paid for and that we are still waiting for the Rt. 49 bridge construction to be completed. Jess will contact DES and request a bill so the signs can be paid from the remaining 2008 budget.

**b. Budget for Next Year:**

The 2009 Budget discussion began with the Dues line item which all agreed should remain at \$200.00. Due to new CCC membership it was decided to propose an increase in the Conference/Education line item from \$250.00 to \$300.00. Conversely, a decrease in the Postage, Public Notices, and Printing line item was proposed from \$150.00 to \$100.00.

The BWNA Management line item was considered and possible expenditures anticipated were erosion control and knotweed management. It was agreed that \$200.00 should cover these expenses.

The Pattee property was discussed next and it was determined that there are several management related expenditures foreseen. The first was an electricity cost which we estimated at \$300.00/yr. Lee Kidney has expressed an interest in continuing his mowing service of the Pattee field. All agreed that one yearly mowing would cost about \$100.00. The idea of a sign at the Pattee property at some point in the future was discussed and \$50.00 was budgeted for that purpose. The last Pattee expenditure possibility considered was a parking area for the purpose of accessing the State Forest. Two potential sites for parking were identified, one near the Blanchard house and the other relative to a break in the rock wall. Lisa reminded us that the edge of the house lot is still unknown and should be clarified. Regardless of the parking area location, all agreed that costs for flagging/signage/gravel should be no more than \$200.00. The total amount budgeted for the Pattee property is \$650.00. Rather than list the BWNA and Pattee Properties as separate line items it was agreed that they would now fall under a new "Property Management" title, the sum of which is \$850.00.

Jane informed of some funding issues that PRLAC is facing due to a grant denial. PRLAC is requesting \$200.00 from all towns along the river corridor and they submitted their request to both the town of Campton and the CCC to cover their bases. The town suggested that it is more relevant to our budget and so we all agreed to include it as a line item in our 2009 budget proposal.

The total budget proposed for 2009 is \$1,700.00. It was recognized that this figure is a significant increase from years past but can be attributed to the Pattee project and PRLAC support. It was reiterated that the source of management costs associated with the Pattee property need to be clearly identified at Monday's Select Board meeting.

Lisa moved to vote on the proposed 2009 budget in the amount of 1,700.00, and Jane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the proposed budget.

### **3. Pattee Property Update/Next Steps:**

#### **a. Winterizing Update:**

Jess and Jules reported that they, along with much help from Ian Halm have completed winterization of the house. The water system has been drained, doors are now secured, and the bulkhead has been renewed and secured. Dump runs were made with Jules' trailer to dispose of sheet metal and scrap lumber. There were no disposal charges. Jess said there may be more dump runs on the horizon come spring time which we may want to incorporate into clean up day work. Some fuel remains in the basement tank, and the unsecured fill pipe may be at risk of siphoning. Jess will look into whether there is a fuel shut off valve in the basement. All Pattee property keys are at the town office and are labeled. Lisa asked whether there is a deductible associated with the town insurance. If there is time, this question will be asked at the Select Board Budget Proposal meeting.

#### **b. Warrant Article for House Sale:**

Since the house sale has to be approved by town meeting vote, a warrant article needs to be drafted. Many questions arose surrounding this process including who puts the warrant article in place, is there a standard format, and is there a deadline? These questions will be asked at Monday's Select Board meeting.

#### **c. Management Plan/Outline:**

Since the Select Board has discouraged the idea of forming a committee from the community, we as a commission need to come up with a management plan for the property. All agreed that the Powerpoint presentation created for the public hearing would be a good starting point and an hour of our next meeting will be dedicated to this task using the presentation as a guideline. Jess suggested that we hold a well advertised meeting every April specifically to address public concerns relative to BWNA and Pattee land management issues. All liked the idea, especially in the absence of a committee and a spring meeting date will set up a work schedule for the summer.

#### **d. What to Name it?** Several potential names for the Pattee property were suggested including Pattee Conservation Park, Pattee Pines, Pattee Meadows, and Pattee Farm. None were agreed upon and the idea of a naming contest was discussed, potentially to be announced at Town meeting or through a press release.

#### **e. Press Release:** The need to formally announce the Pattee property purchase to the public by way of a press release was discussed and it was decided that the Record Enterprise, White Mountain Shopper/ and or The Penny Saver would be the appropriate media targets. Jane offered to draft a press release and Tammy offered to help.

### **4. Greg Jencks Alteration of Terrain Permit:**

Jane reported that she reviewed the letter and package from Pike Industries sent to the CCC and DES, and that all of our concerns were addressed. It is worthy of note that reclamation progress will be photo documented and sent to DES every few years. Jane also said that Pike committed to contacting property abutters even though they were not legally bound to do so. It was decided to put the letter in a newly formed gravel pit file.

### **5. FYI Items:**

#### **a. NHACC Update:** Jules, Lisa and Melissa attended the NH Assoc. of Conservation Commissions in Concord. Lisa learned that the Farm Bill has been greatly expanded to include money for the purchase of farmland conservation easements and fringe properties that buffer farmland. Melissa shared some newly updated Right to Know Law information with emphasis on electronic correspondence.

- b. Campton Pond Update: Jane reported that the Campton Pond dredging project proposed by Steve Hackett and Todd Baldwin has been suspended. There are two reasons for the suspension the first being the documented presence of wood turtles. Also, the land around the pond is owned by the Forest Service who must follow their Resource Management Plan and nowhere in that plan is increased recreation addressed.
- c. Conservation Easement Incentive: Melissa drafted a one page summary of the new tax incentives for conservation easement donations. The importance of getting this updated info to landowners was discussed, and it was agreed that a targeted mailing is the best way to accomplish this. Melissa and Jess will meet and look at the tax maps to generate a list of landowners to target. Melissa's summary will also be posted at the town office and on the web site.
- d. Planning Board and GIS: Jane reported that the Lakes Region Planning Commission has been working on a GIS Co-Occurrence project, mapping tributaries to the Pemi. Jane thought that the work may be presented by Tara Bamford (NCC) at an upcoming Planning Board meeting and will check with May to confirm.

**Meeting adjourned @ 9:33 pm**  
**Next meeting Dec 10, 7:00 pm**