

Campton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2009; 7:30 pm
Campton Town Office

Members Present: Jess Halm, Jane Kellogg, Lisa Doner, Jules Doner

1. Carol O'Neil, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce:

- a. Carol reviewed last year's use of the Pattee field for the Chamber Pumpkin Carving event in October.
- b. This year they are planning it for Oct. 24 or 25, and want to have a few other things going on like apple bobbing and a few vendors.
- c. There was general consensus that this is a good community use for the field and Carol was asked to bring a listing of exactly what would be included this year to the September meeting (9/9)
- d. There was continued discussion about parking. If the driveway permit from NHDOT is received in time, and work on accessing the parking lot on Pattee Conservation Park(PCP) can be done before October 24, then the new lot would be available. Also cars could enter the field near the Blanchard House or park along the south side of Blair Road for the event if the new lot is not available.

2. Conservation property work projects;

BLAIR WOODLANDS NATURAL AREA

- a. On July 21, CCC members had met at BWNA to clear brush and small trees around the parking area. There had also been discussion there about where to place a property sign and whether we needed to spend some money on parking lot upgrade. (It is noted also, that L Gray has again verbally offered donating up to \$500 toward the maintenance of the property)
- b. Jess reported meeting Dean Johnson of Dirt Design to take a look at the present condition of the parking lot, and to give some ideas about what potential work would entail and cost. He had noted that the sloping nature of the driveway and parking lot means that there will be gradual erosion and that every 6-8 years we can expect to be adding material. The present age of the driveway and lot falls in this range. Jess received a bid from Dirt Design for 16 cubic yards of "ledge pack" and grading for \$600. There was discussion about the possible use of reconstituted asphalt with which Jules and Tammi had patched the head of the driveway a couple of months ago. Jules said he would look into other options as comparison for us to consider.
- c. There was further discussion about design of a property sign, where it would hang and what it would state. In general, it seemed that we wanted it to name the property and that this is the entrance. Ron Reynolds has offered to help in routing a sign for the property.

PATTEE CONSERVATION PARK

- d. Jane reported having all paperwork assembled and signed by the Selectmen, and is now ready to send to NHDOT for the PCP parking entrance on Blair Road. She will make copies of the application materials and get it in the mail.
- e. On July 21, CCC members had also worked @ PCP to view the area where the shed nearest the house had been removed earlier by Jules. 4 telephone poles

remain and it was discussed the new owners are likely to want them removed also. The group had also inspected the second shed further from the house, which Jules had cleaned out of material that he took to the transfer station. There was consideration of using the shed materials for some sort of property sign, but it was thought the shed was still useful as it is, and there was conversation about possible future use for it at the parking lot and trail beginning. In the meantime, it lies on the property owned by the town and would benefit by being lifted off the ground onto blocks before winter. There may be a work day scheduled for October or November.

- f. Next, Jess reported contacting the new Grafton county forester, Dave Falkenham to follow up with earlier advice given by Bob Hardy of NH Division of Forests and Lands. DF is willing to come and take a walk to advise about possible wood removal or other forest management issues as we plan for trail construction. A meeting on site will be planned. (Sept. 25 @ 9AM)
- g. Mowing of PCP field: Jess has been in touch with Lee Kidney who has mowed in prior years, twice a season and has expressed interest in doing this for the town. His bid, using his equipment, is for \$300-350. He thinks it will need 2 rounds of cutting and will take about 8 hours on the first cut, less on the second. There was discussion about the price, as this was more than double what had been anticipated. There was also discussion about the responsibility to get competitive bids since this is a town project and used town money, while at the same time honoring LK's neighborly history and concern for the property. Jules volunteered to look for some others who may be interested. Jess and Jules will be in touch to make the best decision.

3. Ellsworth Hill/Bald Mountain conservation inquiry

The CCC had received a letter from a property owner in the Ellsworth Hill area of town, requesting a possible site visit and discussion about conservation options. Jess had contacted the owner by phone and offered to set up a meeting, bring the materials in our conservation packet. A meeting is set up for Aug. 25. Jane will prepare the packet.

4. FYI:

- a. Lisa is moving out of town in the near future. (No need to remove yourself any time soon, Lisa!!)
- b. The eroded Beebe River crossing below the 2 bridges on Yankee Forest land has been signed and has some simple flagging to deter illegal crossing. It seems to have stopped the activity in recent months.
- c. The Kevin Rogers driveway off Eastern Corners Road is still a concern. Larger culverts, requested in our letter to the owner, are on site but not installed. Settling pools along the driveway appear to be cleaned out, but are filling again with each rain event. Lisa and Jules have made an additional visit to the house site. They saw little progress on house installation, but more clearing uphill from the house site, creating more slope degradation concerns. The driveway itself seems to be holding up under present conditions and there is no visible impact to the road ditches or the wetland across the road. Jules and Lisa will attempt to make another personal visit to the site when the owner is present to

encourage culvert installation, drainage weak points, and storage of hydraulic fluids, etc on the site.

- d. Jane reported: Planning Board: Thornton is expected to see some use of wind energy and other renewable energy initiatives on some of the development at Owl's Nest. She also reported there are new gravel pit laws and has received some materials about them for review. From PRLAC: funding from the Pemi Aquatic Resource Mitigation funds will become available to communities in 2009 through grants.

Reminders for future meeting planning:

September 9: GIS needs brainstorming session

October 14: Aquatic Restoration Mitigation (ARM) project brainstorming

Meeting adjourned: 9:25pm

Next meeting: Wed. Sept 9th, 2009; 7:30 pm