

Campton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2009 7pm

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

Others: Nick Sceggell from Granite State Rural Water

1. **November Minutes:**

Melissa made a motion to accept the November meeting minutes. Jane seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2. **PCP: Forester Information**

Jess contacted two of the foresters recommended by Dave Falkenham to inquire about timber management options. Of the two, Jess suggested that we go with Dave Thompson who was both interested and available. Jess will continue to follow up with him.

3. **BWNA:**

a. Trail Sign Repair:

During our recent CCC property work day, it was discovered that the sign at the end of Leah's way reading "To River" was damaged. Jess found that on a subsequent visit the sign head had been detached from its post and left at the kiosk. Jess said it was an easy repair which she would take care of.

b. Close Parking Area:

Jane and Melissa will meet Fri Dec 19th, at 8 am to close the parking area for the winter. Melissa will bring the sign and cable. Jess will ask the owners of the Country Cow if it is still ok to direct winter BWNA walkers to park at their restaurant. If this is still the case, Melissa will draft a reminder for submission to the the Talk of the Towns section of the Record Enterprise.

4. **Groundwater Protection Information:**

Nick Sceggell from Granite State Rural Water attended our meeting to help lay out a clear path forward in our effort to reclassify Campton's stratified drift aquifer and Wellhead Protection Area. On December 2nd, CC members, Pierce Rigrod from DES and Nick met at Melissa's house as a starting point for the project. Nick's position is an EPA grant funded position, the purpose of which is to work with two NH towns on developing a Source Water Protection Plan. Campton is fortunate to be chosen as one of the towns and Nick has since been working to develop a plan.

Nick had e-mailed the CC the Campton Potential Contamination Source (PCS) Inventory for review. This list was compiled by the state and contains only commercial sites. Nick explained that it was likely that the list was in need of updating and that he had been driving around town in an effort familiarize himself with some of the sites. He then asked if anyone had any comments about the list or noticed any missing sites. Some of the potential missing sites

identified were Top Notch Tree Service, Sheer Image Hairstyling, the ATV/snowmobile shop on Depot St., and Ace of Space Storage facility.

Nick described the next step in the reclassification process as a windshield survey. In a ground-truthing effort, Nick and CC members will drive Campton roads to verify, confirm, edit or reject the PCS sites on the list. On Friday, Jan 8th, at 10am, CC members and Nick will meet at the town office to begin this process. Nick suggested that we should consider adding the other Wellhead Protection areas in town to the reclassification since additional work would be minimal.

Nick emphasized that after the inventory is complete, the next major effort will be to begin a communications campaign. He asked what the level of involvement the SelectBoard had to date. Jane and Tammy explained that they and Pierce had attended a BOS meeting and that the BOS had knowledge of our intent to file the reclassification application. All agreed that we will approach the BOS after we have the reclassification application completed and have a clear idea of what time and resource commitments are needed.

Nick said that he had visited the Town Office to inquire about tax maps and GIS information, and that the appropriate person to answer GIS questions was not in on that particular day. Jane explained that Mae and Ron Reynolds had been working on GIS projects and that Nick should meet with them during one of their weekly work sessions. Nick said ultimately he will be aiding the town in cleaning up their GIS databases through his work on both the reclassification and Source Water Protection Plan projects.

Next Nick shared a timeline of steps involved in completing the reclassification.

- a.) The first step as described above is to complete the PCS inventory. After the windshield survey, the missing bits of information in the database must be found such as addresses, phone numbers and tax map info. Jane mentioned that the Planning Board may be a good resource for missing information that we cannot retrieve on our own.
- b.) Next a letter will be sent to the Chamber of Commerce which will speak to the reclassification process and the need to garner support from the business community. Nick emphasized that support from the Chamber should be assumed, since preserving high quality water is in the best interest of business owners. Nick will draft the letter and send it around for review. He passed around an example of such a letter that was used in the town of Milford. Jess said we should consider sending a copy of the chamber letter to the Planning Board and BOS.
- c.) Another letter will be sent to the identified PCS's. Discussion ensued about when would be the appropriate time to send this letter. All agreed that it would be beneficial to send it out before the phone calling step to serve as background information.
- d.) The CCC and Nick will work through the list calling each PCS site to make sure they are still operating and using regulated substances greater than 5 gallons. The inventory and letter writing should be completed by the end of January.

Nick stressed the importance of approaching both the letter writing and phone calling from an education rather than an enforcement perspective. He added that we should meet and carefully script a questionnaire to optimize positive communication and to be prepared to answer questions.

- e.) After PCS's are contacted and confirmed, a follow up letter will be sent explaining Best Management Practices that apply to the source and how the inspection process works.
- f.) By April 1st, an assessment of the required time/manpower for inspections will be presented to the BOS and Water District.
- g.) By mid-May, the Management plan will be put in writing detailing exactly who will be responsible for implementing the inspection process. At some point before then, a public hearing will be held and a letter will be sent to the newspaper educating the public on the issue.

Nick explained that since his position is temporary, he based the timeline on his ability to see the project through. It is his hope to get town approval and an application signed by the BOS by June 1st. This will give DES 2 months to review the application and have the reclassification completed by mid-August.

Everyone approved of Nick's timeline and committed to meeting the August deadline. Nick and Melissa will work together setting up a Google Doc site so that CC members can access and update reclassification documents online. All thanked Nick for his work and he then left the meeting.

5. GIS Workshop Game plan:

Jess said that it has now become clear that the groundwater project has become the new subject of CCC related GIS work and that; we will all likely have the opportunity to learn something through this process.

6. New Member Recruitment Plan:

Jess proposed an organized approach in recruiting new CC members. Her idea is to designate a different CC member each month to focus on inviting a potential member to a meeting.

7. Continue Town Meeting Pre-prep/ Annual report:

Melissa will draft the annual report using minutes from the year's meetings. Town meeting table ideas include PCP work, BWNA cards, and a call for new members. Melissa continues to look into the proposition of selling the cards.

8. FYI

a. Adopt a Highway:

During our recent BWNA workday, Jess came up with the idea of the CC adopting a stretch of Rte 3 in front of BWNA to keep clean. After researching the process, she came to the meeting with the paperwork in hand. Since the Rte 3 stretch is already maintained by the Wreath School, all agreed that a 2 mile stretch beginning at the corner of rte 3 and Blair Rd. and ending on 175 South would be our next site choice. All that is required is a 2-4 work day commitment a year.

With an advance phone call, the Ashland shed will provide reflective vests and trash bags. This new commitment was met with enthusiasm by all.

B.Planning Board/PRLAC:

Jane reported nothing of conservation interest worthy of note this month. Jane did request some CC input on completing a few GRANIT update paperwork items. In particular she asked for clarification of three CCC property designations: Level of protection, Management status, and Public access. After some discussion all came to an agreement on the designations.

Jules added that Butch and his crew weren't able to get to the PCP Driveway site work before ground freeze, so the work will have to wait until spring.

CCC Mail was opened and included a letter from an interested perspective new member. Jess will follow up with him. An application for a Dredge and Fill permit was also opened and briefly reviewed. The site appeared to have CSPA implications. Jane will follow up with this.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20pm
Next Meeting: Jan13, 2010; 7pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tamera Wooster