

CAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting: September 14, 2005
7:30 PM Campton Town Office

Attended by: Jane Kellogg, Chair
Jim Blake, Jules Doner, Jessica Tabolt-Halm,
Melissa Greenewalt-Yelle, Commissioners

FYI Items:

1. Planning Board: Jane reported:
 - a. The GIS mapping being done by Brown University student, Stephanie Elson, has been very well received by the Planning Board and board secretary. At the last meeting, members requested the secretary to request draft copies from Stephanie for review so errors can be noted and corrected.
 - b. Stephanie Elson has requested of the conservation commission, a meeting to look at the GIS maps to begin creating the conservation plan for the town. A date in October will be worked out.
 - c. A subdivision plan has come before the Planning Board which will require a Permit By Notification from NHDES. Jane has agreed to meet the surveyor on the property some day next week, and invited others from the commission who are interested.
2. Jane reported on a site visit she and Melissa had made in July to a property on Ellsworth Hill. The owner had contacted the commission about possible conservation plans for the property. Since so further information had been received from the owner since this visit, no further information was available at this time.
3. BWNA:
 - a. Jane reported that the final funds had now been received from the State Conservation Committee for the moose plate grant.
 - b. There has been some erosion on the parking lot this summer, due to large rain events.
 - c. The number of trail guides stands at about 30. There was consensus to use some of the CCC budget to have more printed up.
4. Patrick Miller: Campton resident (Beech Hill)
 - a. After meeting Dave McGraw and discussing conservation in town, Patrick had contacted Jane about an idea for efforts to protect the Bog Pond watershed. He plans to host an informal meeting in November to begin discussing the idea. Commissioners showed strong interest.
 - b. Jane reported she had also informed him of our current work on starting to write a conservation plan and that she had invited him to join in the work.

Town Website (camptonnh.org)CCC Link:

There was discussion about whether we should ask Beverly Chappell (who maintains the town website), to create a link to the CCC. There was strong agreement that it would help inform folks about our work and might create more interest in help on projects or membership. Some potential ideas for information to include are: Who we are, What we do, the most recent annual report, conservation options for property owners, BWNA, pictures, nature walks, etc. Jane will contact Beverly about this.

Wetland Permit: Owl St./Pike Industries

Jane presented NHDES Expedited Permit Application materials submitted last week by Pike Industries. The project would involve replacing old drainage pipes which are under-sized with proper drainage and catch-basin areas. Members reviewed the materials, asked questions. A possible date and time for a site visit with the Pike representative was chosen for next week. Jane will make contact with the individual and confirm the visit. Several CCC members plan to attend the site visit.

Discussion Items:

1. W. Campton/Campton separation?

Jane had received a request to bring up for discussion, whether there would be any benefits to some sort of separation of the town because of differences in philosophies. The general idea and reasons were presented. In general, members could see no logical reason for pursuing the idea, felt that every community has differing thoughts for its future within the population, and that this can be a healthy element.

2. Conservation Plan: Jane presented copies of Chapter 6 (“Developing a Conservation Plan”)of the NHACC Handbook for members to read before conservation plan work with Stephanie Elson’s maps. Items to be considered as the plan is written include: plan goals, what should be included, who else should help in writing the plan?, etc. Commissioners were asked to read the chapter as “homework”. Full discussion will be held at a later date.

Other:

BWNA: There were questions about whether the temporary trail signs need to be made more permanent. No clear consensus was made. Fall and Winter nature walks were discussed. Plans for winter walks where animal tracking could be done, will be planned at a later date. Jane brought up the question about a small sign near the road which would inform passersby that this is a “nature trail” or “natural area”. She had had several town residents mention the idea to her and thought it might be helpful. There was some discussion on the merits or that it is not necessary, with no clear consensus or motion. Questions about winter plowing of the parking lot will be discussed later.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 12, 2005 @ 7:30 at the Town Office