

Campton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2013; 5:00 pm

Commissioners Present: Jess Halm, Alisoun Hodges, Jane Kellogg, Tammy Wooster

Others Present: Rebecca Steeves

This months meeting time was changed from 7:30 to 5:00 so that following the meeting, CC members could attend the premiere of the locally produced documentary Northern Trespass.

Jane served as chair this month and called the meeting to order at 5:10. Alisoun made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Jess seconded the motion and all were in favor.

1) **Rey Center Conservation Fund Expenditure:**

Jess reported that the Rey Center Invoice requesting \$500 to help cover the Nature Nights program expenses was turned in to Ann Marie and has been paid from the Conservation Fund.

Jane said that she had spoken with someone who attended the first Nature Nights on June 26th and said that it was an excellent program. Jess added that she was hopeful more folks would attend since she has been spreading the word to area families via Facebook.

2) **BWNA/Red Sleigh Downed Tree:**

Jess reported that she had been contacted by Red Sleigh Condo. Assoc. president Loretta Muzzey regarding a tree on BWNA property that was leaning over a Red Sleigh wood shed. Jess and her husband Ian visited the site and described the tree as a very tall poplar which was broken at a height of about 25', and leaning over the wood shed. In Ian's opinion, this is not a chain saw job, and a crane would be required to remove the broken crown. Jess added that Loretta agreed that there was no imminent threat, since the tree was secured and hung up in the surrounding trees. Jess noticed that there were some other trees flagged on the Red Sleigh property and Loretta told her that they were planning to cut those trees and would need a crane to complete some of the work. Loretta proposed that if the CC secured a crane to remove the poplar, that perhaps the Red Sleigh could share in the cost and use the crane for their tree work. Jess told Loretta that she would take the issue up with the rest of the CC and would get back to her, but that it could take some time.

Alisoun questioned whether it is our responsibility to remove the poplar to which all agreed that it is, since it is on BWNA property. Jess will contact Top Notch to

request a quote, and will report back to the group.

While on the subject of BWNA, Jane shared that she has recently seen Leah Gray who expressed great enthusiasm for the Nature Nights program and mentioned that she was happy to continue to support our BWNA projects.

3) Livermore Falls Update:

Since our last meeting, Jane and Alisoun had been in contact with Bill Carpenter from DRED, who had requested the names of some Beckett School contacts to begin a conversation about creating a parking area to access the Livermore Gorge area. Jane and Alisoun provided Bill with some names via e-mail, and Bill responded that he is unable to give the matter his attention until July 22nd, as he will be away. Jane will follow up with another e-mail on July 21st, and will re-send the list of contacts at that time. Jane reminded the group that there will be a clean-up of both sides of the river on August 3rd, from 8-9 a.m.

4) Friends of CCC List update:

Tammy reported that she has forwarded the CCC Friends List spreadsheet to Beverly Chappell, for import into the Constant Contact web page function, and has not heard back yet. Additionally, there has been no new CCC e-mail received to date.

5) Internet Access:

Jane reported that Kelly Bolger is in charge of the meeting room internet outlet connections to the server, but she is not sure whether this has been accomplished. Rebecca wondered whether it would be possible to use one of the outlets to connect a wireless router, to avoid the need for multiple cables. All agreed this would be useful.

6) Conservation Matters Column:

Jess passed around copies of a draft e-mail to be sent to the 6 conservation groups participating in the upcoming monthly Record Enterprise column. The e-mail clearly details all of the parameters and guidelines for column submissions, approved by Record Enterprise editor Brendan Berube. Alisoun asked whether this process as specified would be giving Brendan Berube sole authorization to print the articles regardless of content. Tammy reminded the group that we discussed this last month and it was decided to trust the process unless we see a problem, since each submitting group will have internally reviewed their own articles. Jess proposed that we recommend to all of the groups that if there is any question of content appropriateness to send the article around to the rest of the groups for review. Alisoun added that we should also request that Brendan Berube notify the submitting group if there are any edits of content before printing the article. All agreed that these two

steps will ensure the integrity of the project. Jess will get going on the first submission, to be printed in August

7) PRLAC Management Plan:

Jane reported that she and Tara Bamford from the North Country Council presented the revised Pemi River Management Plan to the Campton Planning Board on July 2nd. The Planning Board was provided with two printed, and two CD copies of the plan. Jane explained the history of the PRLAC (Pemi River Local Advisory Committee) to the board, and what the management plan is meant to do. Tara Bamford followed up with an explanation of how the Planning Board can put the plan to use as a tool in river conservation related planning.

Jess suggested that we have a future work session to review the plan together with a goal of having recommendations ready to make to the Planning Board when the time comes for revision of Campton's Master Plan. Jess added that this work could be coupled with our Wildlife Action plan project list.

8) Other Business:

Jane told the group of a film to be shown on Tuesday, July 16th titled The People's Forest at PSU Boyd Hall, 7pm.

Jess opened CCC mail containing an announcement for the Sept 18-21 NH Coverts training workshop in Greenfield. The group discussed a few ideas for Campton folks who might be interested in the workshop and will follow up with them.

Also received, was a flier for a July 18th workshop titled Field Trip 101; You Can Lead a Guided Walk.

Finally, Tammy gave a quick legislative news update reporting that LCHIP funding has been fully restored, and that a bill to elect conservation commissioners has been killed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Next Meeting: August 14th, 7:30 pm
(Jess will serve as Chair)

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Wooster

