

**Campton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 2, 2016; 7pm**

Members Present: Shannon Garnsey, Jess Halm, Alisoun Hodges, Jane Kellogg, Dave Peeler, Rebecca Steeves, Tammy Wooster

Dave served as chair and called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. Jane made a motion to accept the February meeting minutes. Alisoun seconded the motion and all were in favor.

1) Adopt a Highway Roadside Cleanup:

Sunday, April 17th was set as the tentative for our spring roadside cleanup. We will meet at the PCP parking area at 9 am.

2) Conservation Matters: The Squam Lakes Society is up next for Conservation Matters and will be submitting an article about impacts to trails while hiking in mud season. The CCC is on deck for April, and ideas for springtime related subject matter were discussed. Tammy will gather info from Hubbard Brook to begin an article relative to ice-out. The article needs to be ready by April 1st.

3) BWNA/PCP : With the expected earlier than usual onset of spring, we will likely be opening the BWNA parking area soon. Shannon will coordinate with Jane, Jess and Dave to do some trail work. Jess proposed that we put the PCP Blanchard house on next month's agenda as a discussion item. Jane recently had an inquiry from a Saddleback Road resident, who asked if he could bring his grand kids to play in the PCP field. This led to a nice conversation about the property and its upkeep, and the man offered to help with the walking path mowing. All were pleased, and Jane will let this generous PCP neighbor know about our roadside cleanup date.

4) Website Update: Jess said she will be meeting with Leona Minicucci next week to tie up some website loose ends, The website will be finished soon, and details about how to get it up and running are unknown. Jess will contact Carina to ask if she can help, or whether Beverly Chapell is still involved with town technical support. Alisoun said that she noticed some CCC meeting date and address edits needed on the town website and sent them to Carina.

5) Town Meeting/Voting day Planning:

The group compiled a list of what materials are needed to gather for our Town meeting/voting display. Nancy Bell from the Conservation Fund is having Beebe River Uplands fliers printed at True Colors, and we can pick them up there. Alisoun checked the CCC mail and there was a packet of Wildlife Action Plan brochures that she had requested for the display. Jane suggested a clipboard for Friends of the CCC sign-up, and gathered other brochures from the cabinet. Rebecca will print out a group picture she took of our Bog Walk event to include. Jess will contact Moderator Tim Scanlon and Carina to secure display permission, and she and Shannon will meet the afternoon of March 7th to set up. Tammy will ask Dede Joyce for a spot and table to be set up for the Town Meeting display.

6) Beebe River Uplands Project:

Jane reported that Nancy Bell shared the great news that the Forest Legacy Grant has been funded. This will provide money for the stewardship planning, surveying, improvements, and easement work relative to the Beebe River Uplands. Nancy requested a brief meeting to assist us in communicating a consistent message to people when talking about the property. Jane and whoever else can make it will

meet with Nancy on March 7th at the Common Man Inn to discuss the project. Jane will ask Nancy if she can move the meeting from 1:00 to 2:00. The map for town meeting display will also be picked up then. Jane reminded the group to put the April 4th Select Board meeting on our calendars, at which time Nancy will be presenting info about the project.

7) Conference Planning:

The 2016 UNH sponsored Saving Special Places conference will be on Saturday, April 9, from 8-3:45 at the Prospect Mountain High School in Alton, NH. Jane plans to attend and asked that others decide by March 20th to guarantee the early registration fee.

8) NRI : Our next NRI work session will be on Saturday March 26th, 8 am, at the Town Office.

9) Northern Pass:

Jane attended the first of 5 scheduled SEC public hearings on the proposed Northern Pass project and summarized the meeting for the group. She said there were about 120 people there, with the majority speaking in opposition, but there was also union and business related representation in favor of the project. SEC committee members and Eversource reps were present for questioning. The format was similar to prior hearings, with a project overview presentation followed by a Q&A and public comment session. Comments were limited to 4 minutes and outbursts were quickly put to an end. Rep. Jeannie Forester and an AMC representative (NAME?) spoke in opposition. Jane said she learned about monopoles that will replace lattice towers, and be used along the reduced wattage under to above ground transitions. The Grafton County SEC Public Hearing will be on Monday, March 14, at the PSU Ice Arena in Holderness. The DOE Public Hearing on the Northern Pass Draft EIS will be on March 9th, 5pm at The Waterville Valley Conference Center. This is also town meeting night. Shannon sent an email to the DOE on behalf of the CC requesting the hearing date be moved, since it conflicts with Town meeting. She received a response saying that written comments will be given the same consideration as verbal comments, and may be submitted until April 4th. Tammy said she received the same response after submitting a personal request for a meeting change. Jess and Tammy will meet to draft CCC comments by this deadline. Jane sent an email to the DES detailing discrepancies found in the Northern Pass Shoreland application. DES replied the comments will be attached to the application filing.

10) FYI/Other Business:

Since the approved limited bobcat hunting and trapping season vote by the Fish and Game Commission, Rebecca learned there are more legislative steps that can reverse the opinion. There is a Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules hearing on April 1st.

Jess ran into a former CC member who expressed interest in coming to our meetings. Jess learned that the Alexandria CC photo calendar reported on last month ran from Feb-Jan. As part of next month's land management meeting, Jess will contact the Rey Center to jumpstart Nature Nights planning. Jane reported that the next Friends of the Pemi/Livermore Falls meeting will be on March 23rd at RMI in Holderness. Mail opened included a DES Land Resources Management file closure on an Ellsworth Hill property.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:37 pm
Next Meeting: April 6, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Wooster