

Campton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Members present: Jess Halm, Jane Kellogg, Rebecca Steeves, Dan Boynton

Jess called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. Jane taking notes.

1. March minutes: moved to approve by Jane, seconded by Rebecca. Voted unanimously to approve.
2. Town voting and town meeting outreach overview: The timber harvest materials prepared for resident property owners and others as handouts were available in the Municipal Building lobby during voting on March 12 and at Town Meeting on March 13. Jane and Dick spent some time on March 12 interacting with those stopping by the table. Interest seemed to be keen by a few, some handouts were taken.
3. Lands Management: Annual review of town-owned conservation properties.

a. Blair Woodland Natural Area: One resident interested in possibly keeping the parking lot plowed and sanded had come to our attention and was invited to the meeting. He did not attend, but it was noted that future conversations about this would be welcome. It was brought up that if someone were to plow, they would need to be insured. Jess reported about contact from Leah Wilson of the Rey Center, inquiring about summer programming by them. It had been determined last season, that the CCC was planning to pursue other options. Jess will follow up on planning for 2019 summer programming for Scout groups by reaching out to Myrtle Lewis.

b. Pattee Conservation Park: Trail clean-up had been done by Jess last fall. A springtime trip there should be done to be sure trails are clear. Liberty Tree maintenance in collaboration with the Campton Garden Club is expected. Mowing of the field is generally done every other year; 2019 being a mowing year. Some berry pickers had noted the high quality and quantity of low bush blueberries in 2017. Jess brought up the idea of looking into mowing schedules that could promote on-going berry picking each year. Research into this was discussed. Rebecca plans to reach out to our county forester for ideas or other contacts that could be useful. Dan suggested reaching out to NRCS which he plans to do. Jess moved to hold off on mowing decisions until more can be researched about maintaining low bush blueberries. Seconded by Jane. All in favor.

4. Updates:

a. Livermore Falls: no recent meetings or contact to report. No planned 2019 projects on the west side appear to have begun yet. Recent handouts about the archeology Field Study on the east side had been met with interest by some Campton residents.

b. Legislative update: Dick was not at the meeting to report. It was noted that the NHACC publishes updates on legislation on their website, for those wishing to know what issues of interest are being discussed.

c. Barry Camp: Shannon sent word to the meeting that both CES students (1 boy, 1 girl) are now registered. Payment is due in June. Jane made a motion to make the \$1020 payment to Barry Camp, to cover 2 participants, to be paid out of the town's Conservation Fund. Rebecca seconded. All voted in the affirmative. Shannon will be asked to request this through Carina.

d. Wetland permit review: no permits to review. Jane reported that at the most recent PRLAC meeting(see below), the group was informed of some changes to the permitting process.

e. PRLAC: Jane had attended the March 26 meeting. Campton Selectperson, Dan Boynton, has also been recently appointed, but was unable to attend due to illness. New wetland changes are being made. Response times have been shortened, there are several tiers of permit types, and new information on BMPs and rules are online or available in printed form. Jane also reported that Plymouth and New Hampton have recently approved water protection plans. In addition: Aquatic Remediation Mediation (ARM) funds of over \$1.6 million is now available to the lower Merrimack river watershed. The upper Merrimack (including the Pemi) mediation funds may become available in 2020. Various municipalities, CCs, county and regional groups, etc will be able to apply to fund projects protecting water, wetland, soil stabilization, etc projects. CCs must have a list of priorities based on resources such as the Natural Resources Inventory and the Wildlife Action Plan. Also at the meeting, Thornton resident, John Gallagher, and owner of Ski Fanatics, announced their annual river clean-up on May 19. There may also be an informal gathering planned afterwards for participants.

f. Website/Facebook updates. The QR code is active. Shannon may have further updates. Jess will follow up,

g. Budget: Shannon has been working on setting up a spreadsheet on the Conservation Funding income from LUCT, expenditures, etc. Jess said she will have it to share soon.

h. Roadside clean-up: the spring litter clean-up date was chosen for April 28. 8:00. Meet @ PCP.

5. Incoming mail: none

6. AOB: Jane reported having just received an email regarding a land conservation project that had come to our attention as a possibility a few years ago. The family owning the property has now hired an accredited land consultant specializing in conservation to assist them and the email received by Jane was to open contact with the commission and to seek next steps if there is interest. Those at the meeting expressed great interest and that this is positive news, given what is known so far of the property's natural resources, location, and size. Jane was directed to set up next steps suitable for the parties involved.

Jess adjourned the meeting at 8:42.

Next meeting : May 1. Rebecca to Chair.