

# Campton Conservation Commission

Minutes for Meeting January 3, 2018.

Members present

Jane Kellogg (Chair), Jess Halm, David Peeler, Shannon Guarnsey, Rebecca Steeves, Richard Osborne

Jane Kellogg called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and accepted with previous corrections.

1. The first order of business was to hear a discussion of the present Northern Pass status by representatives of *Protect the Granite State*, a citizens group working from Concord NH organized in March 2017. The representatives were Chris Garretty and Patrick Bartley. They stated that the public commentary phase of state hearings has been completed. The next step is the Deliberative Sessions by the Site Evaluation Committee charged with deciding if the project is in the public interest to continue. These deliberative sessions do not include public comments but are open to any interested party. *Protect Granite State* strongly urges attending the hearings and demonstrating, by wearing orange, opposition to the present plan for transmission lines spelled out by Northern Pass. The initial meetings will be January 30 and 31 and February 1. Further meetings will be later in February. On January 30 there will be a rally in front of the State House in Concord to demonstrate opposition to the plan.
2. The next business of the agenda was a visit from Jim Frohn, Grafton County Forester. He is collecting information on publically held forests. The Commission reviewed with him the status of Pattee Conservation Park and the Blair Woodland Natural Area. We provided information on the uses and ownership status. Jim let the Commission know that the State and County Forestry divisions are available for consultation and educational programs. The Commission members or others could take advantage of these educational opportunities. We thanked him for his time and assistance.
3. Jane reminded the commissioners that our turn to supply an article for Conservation Matters in the Record Citizen nature column is coming up. Shannon said she had possible articles that could be sent. Jim Frohn said that he would be happy to supply some future articles as well.
4. The annual Winter Bog Walk is coming up January 27. We will need to notify the Record Citizen of the date, time and place. Shannon will put out posters to advertise the event as well. We have obtained the help of Cathy Duffy to help with the nature talks and Lee Stewart will help also with the tracking aspect of the walk. Rebecca will bring the refreshments and members are invited to bring baked goods for attendees as well.

5. The Commission will need to complete the annual report for the Campton Town Report. We will go back through the minutes of 2017 to find the important items to include in the Commission's report.
6. There was a discussion of the commissioners' terms. There is no clear document noting the expiration dates of our terms. We will seek assistance from the Town Clerk where the signed terms assignments are filed.
7. The Commission will send thank you notes to Mike Rej for his generous support of the 250<sup>th</sup> town anniversary celebrations. We will also send a thank you note to Shirley and David Parrish for a generous donation to the town Conservation Fund.
8. The Commission then discussed the progress of recruiting for the Nature Camp. We have secured two spots for the 2018 Camp and now we will need to start the search for interested children. Rebecca had attempted to contact teachers at Campton Elementary but had no response yet. Several potential contacts were discussed. Shannon and Jess will contact school officials to establish the best way to let children and their parents know of this opportunity to attend the Berry Nature Camp.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm with next meeting scheduled for February 7, 2018. Jess will chair that meeting.