

## **Campton Conservation Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 11, 2019**

Members present: Jess Halm, Jane Kellogg, Dan Boynton, Dick Osborne, Shannon Garnsey

Jess called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Jane taking notes.

1. November meeting minutes: Jane moved to approve, Dick seconded, all were in favor.

2. Updates

a. Veteran's Day 5K: The November 9th fundraising event, put on by White Mountain Karate where parking and start and finish was on the Pattee Conservation Park property, was a great success. The group is considering making it an annual event. There was discussion about the benefits to the town around positive use of the property. Uses such as this would mean yearly mowing may be necessary. Further discussion of this could be held at the annual April meeting which is set aside for the management of conservation managed properties.

b. Barry Camp: Shannon reported that 2 spots have been secured (one boy, one girl; ages 10-14) for the July 12-17 session titled "On the Wild Side". Miss Scambio, at CES, will handle communication to parents after the holiday, with applications due late January, interviews in February and registration by March 15. Shannon reported being aware of former campers telling peers of their very positive experiences at camp.

c. Budget Review: Shannon was unable to present our proposed 2020 budget figures (\$1,125) to the budget review at the November 25 Select Board meeting. Carina presented and reported back to Shannon that all seemed acceptable to the Board. Dan reported that there had been discussion during the budget review about mowing the field each year instead of every other year, which is the current management of the field. This topic could also be addressed at the April property management meeting.

d. Climate Committee: Dan and Jane and about 20 others, had attended the December 2 Select Board meeting when Suellen Skinner and Sam Miller of the Plymouth Climate Energy Coalition presented a resolution proposal to the Board. They were also given scientific climate change materials for review. Dan reported the Board accepted the materials, asked for time to review them and get through the current budget review period before taking the resolution up. The proposal was tabled at the Select Board meeting.

e. Concerns brought by residents along Turnpike and Windmill Roads about water management practices was mentioned as an on-going conversation with the Select Board and road crews.

3. Conservation Project:

a. Communication with Tom Howard: Jane reported she had reached out via email after weeks of no response after sending out Purchase and Sales documents to him on 10/8/19. He

responded about needing time for attorney review, and that we should not be concerned about the delay. He also reported he had visited the properties with Patrick Hackley, the new lands point person at The Nature Conservancy. Dan thought of one concern about recent increases in land valuations in Campton, and whether this could be of concern about our price offers.

b. Communication with grant writer Carolyn Singer: Jane reported recent email communication from Carolyn about her beginning work with LCHIP grant materials. She reported there will be changes to the applications this year. She did refer us to the LCHIP website for grant application requirements. Jane will follow up on some questions raised. Carolyn also advised us that applicants for LCHIP grants must attend spring workshops, still to be scheduled. Jess brought up that potential easement holders would need to be accredited under the Land Trust Alliance Standards and Practices. Pemi Baker Land Trust or The Nature Conservancy would both be suitable as easement holders. With anticipated work on grant materials, the Commission discussed being available for work sessions for this purpose in addition to regular business meetings. It was decided that the third Wednesday of each month could be devoted to this if/when needed.

c. Next steps: Jane to follow up with Carolyn Singer and/or others regarding questions raised by Carolyn's recent email. Dan will look into any recent property assessment changes for the properties in question. All commissioners should begin looking at the LCHIP website under Natural Resource Project application for grants, etc. Note any questions to discuss or bring to Carolyn as she works with us on grants.

4. Frozen Bog Walk: The date was set for Sunday, Jan. 26 @ 2 PM. Jess will check with Lea Stewart to see if she is able/willing to lead the walk again. After our January meeting, Rebecca can post on Facebook, Shannon will communicate through her electronic contacts for area families, and we will post in the Record Enterprise. Our paper postings around town done in the past will be eliminated in favor of the above methods.

5. Other business:

Jess reported questions from local residents about recent logging activities going on now off Winterbrook Road. The commission has no jurisdiction over timber harvesting operations. Intent To Cut forms can be seen at the Town Office for information about names of property owner and logger and the amounts and types of wood being harvested.

Jess also brought up a name of a resident with time, energy and interest in topics of common interest to the commission. It was suggested to invite her to become involved.

Dan discussed ideas for other projects around town to benefit town residents. Some could be discussed at the commission's April annual lands management meeting.

6. Incoming Mail: none

7. Next meeting: Wed, Jan 8 (the first Wed is a holiday) Rebecca to chair. Dan wondered about occasional schedule changes or other Commission events and how they might benefit by being on a town calendar. He will ask Carina for a template similar to the town calendar.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.