

Campton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

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

Dan called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM. Jane taking notes.

1. Review and approval of February minutes (taken by Dick).

Dan moved to approve with 2 corrections: Appraisal inspection had already been completed on Jan. 28, two "surveyors" are being contacted. Jess seconded. All voted to approve as corrected. It was reviewed with Dick about next steps for the approved minutes.

2. Finalize Town Meeting work:

Timber harvesting outreach materials used in years past were reviewed. Selections were made to have available at voting on Tuesday, March 10 and at Town Meeting on March 11. Writing a short "blurb" about the West Branch Brook Forest conservation project was then discussed. It would include a brief description of the project, its general budget, and date of the public hearing. There was agreement to include Peggy Martin on the blurb work. A map with Ron Reynolds' help would also be on the table. Shannon also suggested having a clip board with a sign up for names and contact info for those wishing to be kept informed or helping out in some way. Dan sent an email to Carina requesting she contact the town moderator about our table. Jane and Dan will set up the materials on Tuesday morning at voting. Later, Dan will box up and bring them the following evening to the Town Meeting where others on the commission will assist in displaying.

3. Prep for April 1 meeting:

6:30 will be the public hearing for the West Branch Brook Forest project. There was discussion about sharing the presentation among all commissioners attending (all but Rebecca). Jess suggested following as similar format to the hearing on the Pattee Conservation Park. She will send around a general outline to follow at the hearing. Ron Reynolds will be asked to work up a map to show on the screen at the hearing. Jess emailed Carina to confirm that public notices on the hearing were going out.

7:00 will be the regular monthly business meeting of the Commission. April is the yearly meeting to discuss Blair Woodland Natural Area (Bwana) and Pattee Conservation Park (PCP), 2 properties managed by the commission.

4. Schedule spring road clean-up:

The spring clean-up will be Sunday, April 19 @ 8 AM. Meet at PCP. Jess will get bags, safety vests. Notification was sent to Campton Forward and Carina. Rebecca will post on the CC Facebook page. All are encouraged to bring gloves.

5. West Branch Brook Forest project:

a. The land appraisal and bill from George Lamprey had been received. The Miller parcel(9-1-1) is appraised as \$205,000. This comes within the Purchase and Sales agreed-upon range. Dan had reviewed the documents, finding the per acre value to be \$1,348. Jess moved to accept the appraisal and to authorize payment of the agreed-upon fee for appraisal work of \$2400. Dan seconded. All voted to approve. A PDF of the document will be requested of Lamprey.

b. Two land survey proposals had been received. (Jane recused herself for this portion of the discussion due to conflict of interest.) One proposal came in at \$15,000, the second at \$12,500. There was discussion about trying to get the more local surveyor to come down closer to the lower figure. Consensus was this would be a good idea. Dan will reach out.

c. Budget: Jane circulated a draft worksheet to begin filling in known budget figures for the project. 2 unknowns at this point are legal fees and stewardship fees to the land trust (Pemi Baker LT). Dan will request a to-date accounting from attorney Brian Ray and Jess will be attending a PBLT meeting very soon, at which she will gain information about what stewardship fees may be expected. At the public hearing on April 1 and for the Intent to File to LCHIP due in May; all budget figures (anticipated expenses and sources of funding) will need to be firmed up.

d. LCHIP grant work by grant writer, Carolyn Singer. Various tasks that had been assigned earlier were reviewed: Vernal Pool documentation, stratified drift language, historical information about the Spokesfield buildings, pictures, maps, threats to the property if not conserved, community outreach, campaign efforts, etc. Most are ready to provide to her in the coming weeks. She may request a second conference call later this month. Jane coordinating with her on this. The 2020 dates for LCHIP filing are now firmed up. Jess, Jane and C. Singer will be attending a required grant workshop for applicants on April 8. The Intent to File form is due on May 15.

e. PBLT: Jess is coordinating with them. She will soon file their Preliminary Application form and get ideas of what stewardship or other fees to anticipate. There was discussion about consensus in focusing only on parcel 9-1-1 and not the additional piece (parcel 3-1-1). Our P&S has had no response since late October and the piece is under a good forestry management plan and not at risk of being sold or developed.

6. Correspondence:

Letter from Governor Sununu re HB 1402. Dick was interested and took it for follow-up.

DES letter for emergency culvert work on NH Rt 175.

Kellogg Survey estimate, Lamprey Appraisal (see 5 a & b above)

7. Other Business

Shannon reported Barry Camp selections (1 boy, 1 girl) were made, students and families were notified before vacation. They are enrolled and both are excited to be going.

Jane reported that PRLAC notification came about release this year of Aquatic Resource Mitigation(ARM) funds through DES. She reported these funds are available for wetland restoration types of projects. There was some brainstorming of potential sites in town.

Next meeting: April 1. Dick to Chair.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM