

Chairperson Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 7:10 PM. Other members in attendance were Susan Mooney, Debra Kimball, Paul Miliotis and Liz Kotowski, Alternate, who was seated for Raelene Shippee Rice.

Guest was Robert "Buzz" Davies.

**Announcements:** The Commission will have a booth at Nottingham Family Day scheduled for Saturday, September 17. Residents are encouraged to stop by and discuss all things conservation.

**Discussion with Mr. Davies:** Mr. and Mrs. Davies, along with their daughter and her family, own property off Stage Road. The parcels abut the Mulligan Forest and also have frontage along a small pond. The Davies have spoken with a surveyor who outlined the potential for subdividing the property into house lots. Mr. Davies inquired about what the conservation value would be if the building rights were purchased and held by a third party such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and/or a regional land trust. The Commission was enthusiastic about the possibility that additional parcels in the Mulligan block could be protected because the Mulligan block is rated as top-tier habitat by the Wildlife Action Plan Update. At this time, it is possible that 100% of the parcels' appraised development values could be purchased, and thus protected forever from development. Mr. Davies was encouraged to contact two local land trusts about this possibility.

**Minutes:** The minutes of August 8, 2016 were reviewed and accepted as corrected by a motion from Miliotis and a second by Kotowski. Four (4) votes were in favor and there was one (1) abstention.

**Public Program at the Library:** "The Messenger" documentary and discussion will be held at Blaisdell Memorial Library (BML) on September 29 from 6:45 PM to 8:30 PM. The Commission, BML, and the Maine Center for Wildlife are sponsoring the event. Miliotis showed members the flier that will be made available inviting residents to attend. Preregistrations will be accepted by BML because space is limited.

**Nottingham Day:** Mooney will ask April Bacon if she would be willing to help out with the Commission's booth. Others who will be there are: Demeritt, all day; Kimball, morning; and Mooney, set up. Demeritt will contact Shippee-Rice and Smith for tables and easels. Demeritt will pick up "Messenger" fliers from BML. Kimball will provide an additional table. Demeritt will bring information about Bear-Paw Regional Greenways and have a trail map of the North River Preserve. April Bacon has provided drawings for members to choose among for backgrounds of an antilitter campaign. These were passed around and several were chosen as favorites. Mooney will print the antilitter message overlaying

these drawings to be ready for Nottingham Day and posting around town. Mooney will also make a poster for display that will list activities and volunteer opportunities with the Commission for Nottingham residents to assist the Commission.

**Adopt a Highway:** Four times a year the Commission picks up trash along one mile each of Routes 156 and 152. The next cleanup is tentatively scheduled for **September 27.**

**Correspondence:** None

**Possible Wetland Violation:** Demeritt received a notice that there was evidence that heavy machinery had knocked down part of two beaver dams on the North River. The North River is part of the State Managed River Program and is thus protected by the state. Demeritt inspected the site, took photos and sent them along to Ted Walsh at DES.

**Fernald Conservation Easement:** About two dozen people attended the celebration held in the afternoon on August 28 at the old town hall. Several people spoke including members of the Fernald family, Tom Howe and Jack Savage of the Forest Society, and Paul Miliotis, Conservation Commission. Miliotis spoke about his preliminary data list of migratory birds he has recorded on the site, including 24 warbler species. He also spoke to the importance of protection that this parcels provides to the nesting loons at that end of Pawtuckaway Lake.

**Water Removal from Town Rivers:** On 9-10-16, Kotowski reported that a commercial truck was withdrawing water out of the Elliott River on Deerfield Road. She called Mooney who in turned called the Business Office. Because communications were in error the commercial vehicle was not approached before it left the site. Mooney will contact DES to inquire about the RSA that addresses water withdrawal from rivers by commercial entities and the restrictions that are in place.

**River Water Quality Testing:** Kimball said that Kristen Lamb and Ed Viel conducted river quality sampling on 9-12-16 (today) and that will be the last testing for the season. The Commission participates in the Volunteer River Assessment Program (VRAP). Data from all over the state is gathered and compiled. Summary data can be viewed on the VRAP web site.

**Resignation:** Johan Kerkhove communicated that he wishes to resign as an alternate on the Commission. It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Kotowski to accept Mr. Kerkhove's resignation, with regrets. All five (5) votes were in the affirmative.

**Adjournment:** It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Miliotis to adjourn. All five (5) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on October 17, 2016.