

Board of Selectmen's Meeting, Conservation Commission's Quarterly Update":

June 29, 2015, 7:00, Conference Room #1.

Members of the Commission who attended were Sam Demeritt, Cheryl Smith, Susan Mooney, Raelene Shippee-Rice and Kristen Lamb. David Viale from SouthEast Land Trust (SELT) was also in attendance; he would speak about P2, the Sweetser conservation easement project.

Demeritt introduced Mr. Viale to members of the Board of Selectmen (BOS). Viale had a power point program to outline the property and the project. 170 acres would be protected by the NRCS wetland program (WRE) and the remaining 30 acres would be placed into an agricultural easement called ALE whose purpose is to protect agricultural soils. SELT would be the primary holder of the ALE easement (CE) and the town of Nottingham would hold an Executory interest. NRCS would be the third party in these types of CE. SELT is asking the town of Nottingham to support the ALE project with sufficient funds to meet the required 1:1 match from NRCS. The money would be used from the Conservation Fund, a non-tax source supported by Land Use Change Tax penalties when a parcel is taken out of Current Use, often for development. The amount requested was \$60,000. The Commission has voted to support this project by two votes, one on September 16, 2014 in non-public session due to the confidentiality of the project at that time for a sum of \$2650 to bear 50% percent of the appraisal and conceptual plan costs and an additional \$58,756 voted on at a meeting held on June 23, 2015.

The BOS members asked Viale some questions about the property and projects, including the 170-acre parcel funded entirely by NRCS. Mr. Viale will provide additional information to the BOS re: potential house lots and the length of road frontage and the length of the common boundary with the Harvey easement. Viale left at 7:30.

Smith provided the BOS with an updated spreadsheet on CE projects the Commission is involved in. Some discussion points were the current statuses of each of the projects, were there any new pending projects, is there sufficient funds in the CF, and the like.

It was decided to hold the Public Hearing for the Sweetser CE on June 13, 2015 at 7:00 in Conference room #1, chaired by the Commission, with the members of the Board also at the table.

Members of the Commission left at 7:50.

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary