Conservation Commission Minutes April 9, 2018

NOTE: The special meeting scheduled for March 19, 2018, failed to reach a quorum. Debra Kimball, Sam Demeritt, and Susan Mooney reviewed and edited four sets of meeting minutes and will recommend that these minutes be accepted at the next regular meeting on April 9, 2018. All other agenda items will be discussed at that meeting, too.

Chair Sam Demeritt called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Other members in attendance were Cheryl Smith, Susan Mooney, Krystal Costa, not yet sworn in as a full member was seated for Raelene Shippee-Rice, Liz Kotowski, full member, and Paul Miliotis, alternate. Guests were Jonathan Balanoff, resident, Patti Bateman, resident and Mark West, resident.

Conservation Easements: Ms. Bateman reported that she and her husband had met with Dan Kern, Executive Director of Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (BPRG) to discuss their proposed conservation easement (CE) project. He told them that they would need a conservation appraisal done prior to applying for an easement grant to reimburse some or all of the property's loss in value with development rights extinguished, what the cost would be and the usual time frame to complete the document. Ms. Bateman also discussed with members of the Commission re: this issue and also the practicality of public access onto the property. Ms. Bateman left the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Trails Committee: Kotowski, Chair of the Committee reported that they held a meeting on April 5, 2018.

Mark West, representing BPRG, reviewed public access parcels that the land trust owns or holds the CE deeds for, emphasizing their trail projects. Two BPRG properties are located in Nottingham, Kimball Family Forest along Freeman Hall Road and The North River Preserve on Route 152 that protects both sides of the North River corridor for over a thousand feet. The former property does not as of yet have a marked trail, but the North River Preserve has a well marked loop trail that overlooks the river in some areas, has a parking area and a kiosk for displaying the map and other information. Questions and discussion followed. Kotowski said that the committee had not heard back about their grant proposal for the Merriam-Daggett/ Tasker properties. It was suggested that since the town of Nottingham owns the Merriam-Daggett and the Tasker properties outright, that the Commission ask approval of the Select Board to name the abutting parcels as the Marsh Woods Conservation Area (MWCA). Trails teams have been established for several CE properties in town; for the 107 acre Terninko CE, Celia Abrams is the lead, with others to be named later; the Mulligan team will be Kotowski, Balanoff, Mooney and Abrams; and the MWCA team is Abrams, Leanne Gast, and Kotowski. There are small grants for trails available through the Lamprey River Advisory Committee. Kotowski is compiling the maps for handouts and other materials for Nottingham Earth Day scheduled for May 12. The Conservation Commission booth will feature the Trails Committee projects and Litter Free NH town wide Cleanup (see below).

It was moved by Kotowski and seconded by Mooney to reimburse Anne Deely the sum of \$240 for developing a map for grant applications. All six (6) votes were in favor.

Lamprey River Watershed Association (LRWA): Demeritt reported that there was no quorum reached so they were unable to hold a meeting.

Nottingham Earth Day: This year the September town wide celebration has been moved to May 12 and will encourage green activities and themes. Demeritt will pick up the free blue bags to distribute to residents who stop by the Commission's booth. The event is in partnership with the Northeast Resource Recovery Program that assists communities in planning for this initiative. Residents will then pick up two bags's each and deliver to the Recycling Center the following week to be counted and disposed of. Kimball offered to write up a handout for residents that state the schedule, the sorting of trash and safety tips. Members who will be available for helping at the Commission's booth are Kotowski, Costa, Mooney, Demeritt and Shippee-Rice. (Note: Balanoff will help pick up items at the town office and Abrams will also be at the booth to assist for most of the day.)

Minutes: It was moved by Smith and seconded by Kotowski to accept the minutes of December 11, 2017, January 8, January 29, and February 12 all as corrected. All six (6) votes were in favor.

Correspondence:

- Dated 12/6/17, from Lauren Kraas (volunteer) and Connie Colton, Land Protection and Easement Coordinator for the Forest Society (SPNHF), the monitoring report for the Helen Fernald conservation easement located along Deerfield Road. Accompanying the report were aerial images with boundaries and interior features noted. The report stated all was satisfactory.
- A publication, <u>Supply Lines with the Source</u> from Drinking Water and Ground Water Bureau, NHDES. The feature article was "Winter Salt Use".
- Annual membership dues for the NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC), 2018, are now due. It was moved by Smith and seconded by Mooney to pay the 2018 dues for our NHACC membership. All six (6) votes were in favor.

Minutes, March 12, 2018: The minutes were reviewed and edited. It was moved by Costa and seconded by Smith to accept these minutes as corrected. All six (6) votes were in favor.

Discussion: Maintenance/ management of Nottingham's dirt roads and culvert designs. There have been washouts and clogged culverts in some areas this spring. Photos were taken and sent to the Business Office. Short-term remediation was done.

It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Smith to adjourn. All six (6) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on May 14, 2018.