

Chairperson Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 6:43 PM. Other members in attendance were Paul Miliotis, Debra Kimball, Susan Mooney and Liz Kotowski, Alternate, who was seated for Smith. Resident volunteer, Leanne Gast, was also present.

The main purpose of this meeting was to have initial discussions to review which CE properties would benefit by improving parking areas, providing information kiosks and maps, trail development, improvements and maintenance and to determine what granting program might be a best fit for this initiative.

Conservation Easements (CE): The survey for the Terninko CE on the 15+/- acre farm/agricultural parcel is estimated to cost up to \$8,000. It was moved by Kotowski and seconded by Mooney to expend up to \$8,000 from the town's Conservation Fund to pay for the survey. All five (5) votes were in favor. Demeritt will ask Dan Kern, Executive Director for Bear-Paw Regional Greenways land trust (BPRG), for a survey cost for the Kennard property.

Trail and Access Improvements for CE Properties for Public Enjoyment: Following are notes taken on our discussions and findings:

- The NH State Conservation Committee is a resource for this project.
- Three kiosks similar to the one at the North River Preserve along Route 152 will cost an estimated \$10,000 according to one estimate.
- Possible publicly owned and CE parcels that permit public access were discussed for this project. All have different features and would benefit in different combinations of improvements. Some of these discussed were the Kennard piece (town owned, CE in progress), Mulligan Forest (privately owned, CE deed held by Forest Society), Merriam-Daggett parcel (town owned, CE Deed held by National Resource Conservation Service, Wetland Reserve Program, and a 108-acre CE parcel owned by John Terninko Trust, CE deed held by the town of Nottingham.
- Important to the discussion was connectivity of these properties with other CE properties and town owned parcels in order to envision a trail system that would sequentially connect portions of Nottingham with each other and solidify the vision of the Four Generals Greenway.
- The Moose Plate grant does not allow for "interpretative signage" as an eligible component of a grant proposal.
- The NH State Parks.org has a Recreational Trails Program that provide grant funding to municipalities for trail maintenance, trail head facilities and environmental education. Acceptable matching funds of 20% could include the town's highway department efforts to install or improve off-road parking

facilities. The grants range from \$8,000 to \$80,000 per proposal. The last deadline for grant applications was June 23, 2017. (Matching hours are at \$23 per person.)

- As we move forward with this project as a courtesy, Mooney will contact the property owners, including the Town Administrator at the BOS Office, prior to our walks.
- It was decided that on August 7, 2017, we will meet at the Mulligan Forest trailhead off Stevens Hill Road at 9:00 AM, and will meet on August 10, 2017, at 9:00 AM at either the Merriam-Daggett parcel or the Kennard parcel, TBD.

Other:

Kimball purchased a canopy, 10' X 10' for Nottingham Day. It was on sale. It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Kotowski to reimburse Kimball \$59.99. Four (4) votes were in favor. There was one (1) abstention.

Mooney will resend the email from DES re: the Shea Concrete wetlands application to Commission members.

There was a brief discussion re: Japanese knotweed along town roads.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mooney. Miliotis seconded the motion. All five (5) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on August 14, 2017.