

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

DRAFT- November 25, 2013

Present: Nate Fogg, chair; Relf Fogg, Dave Mankus and Dave Tinkham (alt).

Dave Tinkham, alternate, was seated to replace absent member Steve Brown

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

➤ **Public**

None.

➤ **Natural Resources Inventory Ad-Hoc Committee**

N Fogg stated that someone from Moose Mountain Regional Greenways dropped off the 2010 Wild Life Action plan disk, which contains several maps. He noted two examples were provided of wildlife habits and land cover.

D Mankus noted they could contact Sam Wilson from the Acton/ Wakefield Watershed for some help with the maps as this is their slow season.

N Fogg agreed they should look into that resource as some 11 x 17 maps would be useful to have. He noted the bigger project than getting the maps is having the text to go along with it. He also noted he did speak with Linda Shire from the Acton/Wakefield Watershed with regards to a collaborative discussion with the Planning Board regarding the maintenance of private roads and she was agreeable to such discussion.

➤ **List of Conservation Land in Wakefield**

D Tinkham noted there is nothing new to report, but reminded them the deed for Gage Hill states “no hunting” is allowed and that should be posted (he noted that this is where a kiosk would be beneficial) and that they can harvest timber on that lot and should discuss getting a Forestry plan for that lot.

The Commission discussed the signage for snowmobile trails and determined they need to contact some of the local clubs to get a map of the trails.

➤ ***Aquifer Protection Fund***

N Fogg stated the Board of Selectmen are considering a Warrant Article to dissolve an Aquifer Protection Fund that was established years back that has roughly \$26,000 in it. He stated nothing has been done with this fund in over ten years except gain approximately \$8,000 in interest. He stated if they want to keep this fund they need to discuss the purpose of those funds and a future use.

➤ ***Town Forest Update***

N Fogg stated he received information from Ms. Scribner regarding the Pray Hill Town Forrest and he provided that information for review. He stated she provided them with different ways to

manage that Forrest and some information for when choosing a Forrester. He noted that the lot is roughly 40 acres and can have different approaches for the trees because they vary on the lot.

D Mankus questioned the abutting neighbor.

N Fogg replied that there is an area of the lot that is not abundantly clear where the boundary line is and it would be good to get a survey to determine such and have it recorded.

R Fogg stated he feels they do not need a Forrester and can cut out the "middle man" but getting a logger.

N Fogg disagreed; he feels personally they should have a Forestry plan and that the Commission should come up with a plan of what they want to do with the lot by the next meeting.

The Commission continued to discuss the pros and cons of hiring a Forrester.

N Fogg stated they can review the information provided by Ms. Scribner and should make a decision at their next meeting. He noted he would also check with the Town Administrator on how to address the funds from the harvesting.

➤ **Rules and Procedures**

N Fogg stated he is still making the updates to the RSA notations to be consistent with Conservation Commissions.

➤ ***Hutchings Field Status***

D Tinkham reminded the Chairman to get in touch with the owner regarding the dock and the pine trees.

➤ **Consideration of Minutes**

The public minutes from October 28th, 2013 Conservation Commission meeting were reviewed.

R Fogg made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 28th, 2013 Conservation Commission meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Dave Tinkham. D Mankus abstained. The vote was 3-0-1 the motion carried.

➤ ***Correspondence***

N Fogg provided the correspondence and applications for review.

➤ ***Other Business***

N Fogg noted that the funds that were expended out of the Conservation Funds needs to be signed by at least three members. He provided such warrant in the amount of \$550 (\$425

+\$125) towards the \$2,125 for the Campers that attended Tanglewood this past summer. This is documentation needed for the Finance Department.

R Fogg made a motion to approve and sign the warrant in the amount of \$550 for the funds expended from the Conservation Fund for the Tanglewood campers balance. The motion was seconded by Dave Tinkham. D Mankus abstained. The vote was 4-0-0 the motion carried.

➤ **Public**

None.

➤ **Next Meeting**

The date for the next meeting is scheduled for December 9th 2013 at 7:30 PM.

R Fogg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by D Tinkham. The vote was 5-0 in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio