

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes Draft-December 16, 2013

Present: Nate Fogg, chair; Tom Dube and Dave Tinkham (alt).

Dave Tinkham, alternate, was seated to replace absent member Relf Fogg

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

➤ **Public**

None.

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

N Fogg stated that he sent an e-mail to Linda Shire from the Acton/Wakefield Watershed with regards contacting Sam Wilson for some help with the maps where Dustin left off.

➤ ***Town Forest Update***

N Fogg stated he checked with the Town Administrator on how to address the funds from the harvesting and she advised it would be a vote of the taxpayers to keep those funds. He stated a Warrant Article was suggested, but at this point they would not have an estimated cost for such and feels they should proceed with this process and do a Warrant Article next year.

D Tinkham agreed and feels they should seek reimbursement for the funds as those funds can be used to address signage, etc. at Gage Hill, Pray Hill and other Conservation properties.

T Dube made a motion to authorize the use of Conservation Commission funds to send out an RFP to solicit a Forestry Plan for the Town Forest and to seek reimbursement for such. The motion was seconded by Dave Tinkham.

DISCUSSION:

N Fogg provided a list of Foresters for the Commission to review and noted there are several in the surrounding area.

D Tinkham noted he would like to be sure the project is done well.

N Fogg stated they should review the goals and objectives of the project.

Members voted. The vote was 3-0-0 the motion carried.

➤ **Rules and Procedures**

N Fogg stated he has completed making the updates to the RSA notations to be consistent with Conservation Commissions. He suggested they wait until the next meeting when more members are present to adopt the revised Rules and Procedures.

➤

➤ **Consideration of Minutes**

The public minutes from November 25, 2013 Conservation Commission meeting were reviewed and the Commission agreed to table the consideration of the minutes until the next meeting when more members are present.

➤ **Financials**

N Fogg stated that they have \$1,354 left in the budget as of November and noted 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 also noted the Board of Selectmen is proposing to change the current use fee from 100% to 50% unless they can provide a reason to keep it at 100%.

T Dube replied that he feels 50% is fair.

➤ **Correspondence**

N Fogg provided the correspondence and applications for review.

- McDounough-shoreland permit
- Knickerbockers-wetland permit

➤ **Public**

None.

➤ **Next Meeting**

The date for the next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

T Dube made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by D Tinkham. The vote was 3-0 in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio