

JAFFREY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

December 2, 2009

In Attendance: William Graf, Co-Chair

Nora Barton Bryant

John O. Field

Carolyn Garretson

Patricia Weiner, Alternate

Kathy Batchelder, Selectman's Representative

Sandy Isaacs, Guest

Absent: James Bearce

Ron Rogstead, Alternate

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM .Pat Weiner was appointed as scribe, and the minutes of the October 28, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

II. Correspondence received:

A. Foster property on Thorndike Pond Road - DES has determined that the area has been naturally revegetated after excessive logging occurred. Because there is no action to be taken, DES has closed the issue.

B. DES has sent a "cease and desist" letter to Mr. Ronald Hurd warning against continued dumping of leaves into wetlands areas.

C. Hope Fellowship Church has received DES approval for their project.

III. Treasurer's Report

A. Reimbursement to Jim Bearce for work done on bridge repair in Children's Woods in the amount of \$123.95 will be made shortly.

B. YTD balance is \$7918.88 of which \$6909.00 is allocated.

C. Of the original \$4252.50 owed to the Conservation Fund from payment of the Vorce Soney survey of Children's Woods, \$1048.29 remains to be reimbursed to the Fund. It was agreed that this will be done in 2010 if feasible after other uses of Gordon Fund moneys have been identified.

D. The Monadnock Conservancy fees towards the completion of the Children's Woods easement were discussed. JOF advised that Con Com is not obligated to help support this expense, but suggested that we contribute if we have funds to spare at any time. All present were in agreement.

IV. Priority Items.

A. The Open Space Committee - The Selectpersons decided to postpone further discussion until a special OSC meeting is held on December 7. Issues such as the OSC composition and the resulting Con Com workload will be discussed and hopefully, resolved. Explanations had been given to the Select Board regarding the history of development of this move including the source of the move to create a commission somewhat separate from the Con Com.

B. .Monadnock Conservancy bill and Children's Woods - Con com had advised Mike Hartman that it could offer remaining funds from the

Gordon Fund income in the amount of \$1136.05. The funds were accepted by the Town.

JOF advised that he had asked Charles Marvin if the Gordon Fund will want an accounting by the end of the year. JOF will send CG's tracking sheet to Charles Marvin towards this end. Con Com will request the Gordon Fund to advise it of the nature and timing of next year's anticipated funds.

C. Completion of Children's Woods Easement - The easement closing was held at the Selectmen's meeting November 9. Con Com has not yet received copies of the documents involved promised by the Town - the easement deed, Memorandum of Understanding, and Baseline Documentation Report. KB advised that the Monadnock Conservancy has the documents and had promised to make copies for all involved. Con Com will follow up on this matter.

D. Annual Report Preparation - BG requested that JOF prepare a draft. JOF agreed to do so in early January. KB will advise as to the actual date due in January.

E. Peter Dublin of Squantum Road has resubmitted his application for Permit by Notification re: the building of a retaining wall. The application was the same as last year's which had been dropped when the Con Com recommended he complete a Shoreland application with DES. An application was never filed before the ZBA as Con com had also suggested. BG will speak to Mr. Dublin to try to clarify his latest action prior to any official response.

V. Reports

A. Grey Goose walk with Jeff Littleton - BG, JB, and JOF walked the easement property with guidance from Jeff. Both felt it was beneficial, especially from an educational point of view. The 31 acre lot was sold, the 25 acre lot is under contract and the remaining 14 acre lot was bought by the town to protect future use of a well.

B. Increasing Membership - The resolution of leadership will be readdressed at a later date. PW suggested that we clarify potential members' responsibilities. KB added that perhaps we could write a page outlining duties, time required per month, etc.... and present it to a group of potential members at a social hour. A powerpoint presentation of commission makeup, duties, activities and purpose would help. Press releases should be done. The get together can be held in January or February. One possible venue is the Cutler memorial Building. CG, NBB, PW and KB volunteered to create a plan. JOF also stated that we need a new list of potential members.

KB added that if we work on above, perhaps BG and JB would consent to continue as co- chairpersons. JOF agreed to stay on to assist for a while longer.

C. CPCA - JB can now work at Cheshire pond. BG and JB may be able to begin this work in the next couple of weeks.

VI. Updates and Information

A. BG attended the Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions in Concord. He has materials and information regarding this. Also covered were Invasive species and Managing Town Forests.

B "Saving Special Places" will be held in Weare April 10, 2010 at the John Starke H.S.

VII. Other Business

A. JOF advised that The Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee (CNBRLAC) is being reconstituted and that perhaps a member of the Jaffrey Conservation Commission should be Jaffrey's representative.

B. NBB advised that a seminar on "Emerging Forest Pests" will be held at the Keene Rec. Center will be held on 12/11/09 from 9AM - 12 noon. It is free and preregistration is necessary.

C. The issue of converting PW's appointment to the Con Com from alternate status to regular member status was addressed. KB advised that the chairman should write a letter of request to the Select Board.

The next regular meetin of the Con Com will take place 1/27/09, 7PM at the Town Offices.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 P.M.