

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MAY 10, 2017

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Lisa Oden, Jack Messe, Karen Miller, Matt Oliveira, Lori Rautiola

ABSENT: David McTigue

The meeting was called to order at the Town Office at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the April 12, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Jack made a motion to approve the minutes. Bob seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

**Communications:** Bob reported he, David and Lisa visited the Alix site who have applied for a wetland permit on Boynton Hill Road and himself and Lisa visited the Locke Road site. Both applications were signed and approved by the Commission.

**Old Business:** The new logo for the Commission was discussed and it was agreed to print the logo on letterhead at the Town Office.

**New Business:** Bob noted the OHRV signs are in for New Ipswich Mountain and he will ask Northeast Wilderness Trust to hang them. It was also mentioned that Northeast Wilderness Trust is looking for a donation of \$25,000 to aid in protecting the land. He added they would also like to close down their portion of the road going up the mountain and gate it.

**Water Resources:** Members discussed ways to inform residents on protecting their wells such as having pamphlets or updating the website with links to the State website regarding wells.

**Lands:** Bob gave a brief outline on evaluating potential conservation lands. Prospective lands may include land containing valuable natural resources, property that may be donated, property for sale, property with a tax lien, or town acquired property due to unpaid taxes. The Commission can also use GIS to determine if lands have natural resources. Land attributes may include land that overlays aquifers, land abutting lakes or ponds, streams and rivers, land containing wetlands, vernal pools, mountains/hills, watersheds and habitat.

Members discussed properties that may qualify to be conservation land. Potential lands could be purchased or the Commission could assist the owner of land with transaction costs (survey, legal, clean up). Bob stated he would like to have a list of potential conservation properties for the June meeting.

Bob presented an invoice to the Commission from Sharon Monahan, Certified Wetland Scientist, in the amount of \$356.00. The invoice was for a report on a site visit to Page Hill, Lot 5B/1A to determine if

the owner was building within the wetlands setback. Bob made a motion to pay the invoice of \$356.00. Matt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bob nominated Lori Rautiola as an alternate member.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola