

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 13, 2011

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, Jack Messe, David McTigue, Dixie Rhoads, Matt Oliveira, Joanne Meshna

ABSENT: Doug Waite, Becky Doyle

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

Jack made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2011 meeting. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Trails: Jack will set up a time to walk the Kellogg trail. Bob suggested he do it with a GPS. Members discussed the purchase of a GPS for the Commission's use and were in favor of doing so. Bob will research them and report back at the next meeting.

Lands: Monadnock Conservancy is purchasing the Bon property located on Whittemore Hill Road.

Joanne purchased two "no camping" signs. Jack will install them at Dam Site 35 and at the Nussdorfer Nature Area.

Zeke Somero had dropped off a sign he had built for the Kellogg easement. Suggestion was made that perhaps the letters should be routed and painted and the wood be pressure treated. Doug has not yet seen the sign. Discussion will continue once he has and Zeke will be sent a letter of the outcome.

Communications: Matt is continuing to work on the brochure. He will send out another draft to members.

Water Resources: Members discussed the horse corral on Poor Farm Road and if it was in violation. A fence is not considered a structure. The Zoning Ordinance may need to be amended to include horse corrals as structures.

Bob contacted the DES regarding the Tuttle property on Ashburnham Road. They have lost their enforcement person for New Ipswich and it did not sound like anything further would be done by the State. Bob suggested that the town needs tighter regulations and be able to enforce them as it appears the State cannot be relied on to do so.

David continues to work on an amendment to the natural woodlands buffer. He will e-mail members what is in the ordinance presently and solicit suggestions for change.

Old Business:

Dixie and Bob will meet on Monday, July 18 at 9:00 a.m. to review the maps for prime wetlands.

Dixie had an e-mail from Brenna. Brenna is working with Marilyn Stowe on the Conservation Commission logo. In answer to some of her questions – the logo should be scalable, color version is ok but should also be able to be done in black and white, not complicated, provide drafts to Commission for their review.

Members discussed Intents to Cut for all timber cutting. Bob is still waiting to hear from the Board of Assessors on their decision. A minimum amount where no permit would be required would need to be determined. Perhaps adding a requirement that cutting near wetlands requires a permit regardless of the amount of timber cut would address the concern. Having Swift Corwin inspect the cuts was also discussed.

Joanne will make copies of the Handbook for Conservation Commission members for those that do not have one.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Meshna, Secretary