

Campton Conservation Commission

Minutes

April 10, 2024, 4:30pm

Campton Municipal Building

Join Zoom Meeting-Meeting ID:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82265624772>

Meeting ID: 822 6562 4772

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

In attendance: Chair Bill Copeland, Jim Butler, Janet Lucas, Hope Eagleson, Rebecca Steeves, Jess Halm.

(Jane Kellogg as attending public)

Called to order at 4:39pm.

1. Approve 3/6/2024 minutes – Janet moved, Jim seconded – approved.
2. New Business
 - a. Discuss Jesse and Skye Bartlett parcel inquiry – Jane was contacted by the owners of the Dole Mill who have purchased property along the Mad River and were inquiring about the town purchasing it from them. There was some discussion about the details of the property and ideas of use, but more information is needed to consider. Jane will follow up.
 - b. New Intent to Cut (52 Loft Circle off Ellsworth Hill Rd) - Bill – seems to be a remote lot. There was some discussion about the procedure for timber harvesting in town. Bill will do some research by contacting NHACC to see what other towns are doing.
 - c. Schedule a May property cleanup day – Saturday, May 4 from 8:00-12:00; meet at the Town Hall (with gloves, tools, bug spray, etc.); Facebook to be updated.
 - d. Campton Bog project discussion/involvement; Invite Brian Hotz (Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests) to a future meeting – Jim will invite him to our May meeting.
 - e. Discuss possible projects and submitting an application to Action for Wildlife - tabled
 - f. Jim proposed sending 3 thank you notes to the state congressional leaders that helped with the renaming forest bill - Jim will do this.
3. Conservation Property Updates:
 - a. PCP
 - i. Update on the timber harvest (Jane) - Periodic updates and the town received a check already for \$13,829.85. Jim will get the timber documents scanned and into our folder. Jess will be Steve's contact while Jane is out of town.
 - ii. Seed type to plant will be the conservation mix
 - iii. Signage requirements? Wildflower fields (Jess) and/or timber harvest sign (Hope/Bill) - Jess typed up information about the field and we could put up something about the forest on the trail into the forest (could be informative and a marker for the trail. Bill will draft up something on the forest project, but it is not an immediate need).

- iv. Liberty Tree – Jane has been corresponding with the garden club. They will discuss in June and be in touch. She is doing the text, so there was discussion about including pictures to go with it.
 - b. BWNA
 - i. Trail guide update (Jess) - Been in touch with Denise and will continue working on it. -
 - ii. Trail guide QR codes (Jim) - no update
 - iii. Opening parking lot
 - c. WBBF
 - i. Open/close of parking lot – still open; Janet walked the trail and noticed a few large trees over the trail. Hope will bring an ATV and tools. Jess will reach out to the snowmobile club to let them know and ask about access through there gate. Hope will check it out after these upcoming rains and follow up with the group.
 - ii. Do we need to fix the gate? - one post is leaning so may have to adjust the locking system.
 - iii. Vernal Pool Walk (May) - What’s needed? Who can lead? - Jess will check with Peggy about leading and get back to us. And reminder to notify/invite town folks.
 - iv. Jim repaired the sign, removed snow stakes and snowmobile signs, and found an earring (PD has it).
- 4. Invasives Subcommittee Report (Janet, Jim, Bill)
 - i. Mapping to resume in May – will focus on the utility areas at first; about 14 miles. DES still has to permit this stretch within Campton. Work is scheduled to begin late summer 2024, so there is time to map prior to the work beginning.
 - ii. Doug Cygan’s response/Moving priority to focus on Eversource project land – they are replacing wood poles with steel; going back into previously disturbed areas. Invasives subcommittee plans to monitor how the sub-contractors will be ensuring that the spread of any existing invasives is minimized.
 - iii. Homeowner that reached out – next steps – after getting information at town meeting, they want the subcommittee to come out to look at their property and help them deal with the knotweed. This could be a test site for the committee to document the methods. Bill will reach out the homeowner and set a date for invasive committee to visit and evaluate.
- 5. Old Business/Continuing discussion
 - a. Barry Camp scholarship - selection, payment (Rebecca) - Jim made a motion to pay invoice, Janet seconded - approved. One camper did not register, so Rebecca reached out to Shannon to ask about another student who might be able to attend; will wait to hear back. Money for this camp comes from the Conservation Fund.
 - b. Possible NHFG Presentation (Hope) - no presentation is available.
 - c. Changing our monthly meeting time (was tabled until full board in attendance) - Janet made a motion, Jim seconded – approved. Now at 4:30pm; Will need to update public notices and our web site.
 - d. Naming a permanent chair for the Commission – We could ask Jade about a contact or contact list that she may want, but we will continue to rotate chair for meetings. We do

have the CCC email, so that is a way a person could reach us. We will have to make an effort to transition people from contacting Jane; she will continue to forward as needed.

6. Incoming Mail

- a. An apology from the district ranger from WMNF regarding snowmobile use on the Miller Trail – it was a wildlife crew accessing a WMU on Stinson Mountain who used poor judgement and had a lack of preparation. It may be a good idea to put up a sign in the winter about no trailer parking.
- b. Jane Kellogg's resignation letter from the commission. Jim led us in thanking her for 25 years of work and contributions to the town and its lands; she will be a lifetime friend of the commission.
- c. Jim received an email from NHACC with a request about updating GRANIT and mapping public land; he will follow up to add WBBF to the database.
- d. Janet asked about the NRI being updated for 2026 and we can start collecting resources and information for it. Jim and Hope have contacts who could help. This could prompt a presentation at the CHS

Adjourned at 6:57pm.

Next meeting: May 1, 2024, Chair: Janet