

**Town of Bennington  
Conservation Commission  
Minutes of the Meeting – March 15, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members Present: John Baybutt, Jon Manley, Joe MacGregor, and Valerie Germain

**Agenda**

- 1. Approve Minutes**
- 2. Town Owned Property on Stage Coach Rd.**
- 3. Earth Day Clean up**
- 4. Map of Potential Conservation Lands**
- 5. Other**

**1. Approve Minutes** – Minutes from February 16, 2012 were approved as written

**2. Town Owned Property on Old Stage Coach Road** – On Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, CC members John Baybutt and Valerie Germain walked the property with Selectman Phil Germain. Joe MacGregor and Jon Manley were already familiar with the property.

The Conservation Commission would like to recommend to Selectmen that the parcel be held in conservation by the Town and to designate it as “Public Lands.” Commission members would like the parcel to be available for public use with the future potential of utilizing it for expansion of the cemeteries if deemed necessary. The Commission would like to seek approval from the Selectmen to cut down a tree approximately 40 feet in from the road for off road parking and to prevent motorized vehicles from accessing the property.

**Action Item:** John will write a letter to the Selectmen to include the Commissions recommendations and request stated above.

**3. Fourth Annual Earth Day Clean up:** Will be held on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. with a BBQ at noon.

**Action Items for CC Members:**

**Joe MacGregor**

- ~ Contact Sue to locate the event sign for intersection of Routes 202 and 31
- ~ Contact Brian Beale from Antrim Boy Scouts
- ~ Contact Chester Heinzman from BFD
- ~ Tent (from library)
- ~ Contact Gary at Highway Dept. of the event (remind them to join us at noon for lunch)
- ~ Grill

**Jon Manley**

- ~ Check with River Committee to see about putting the display of the Contoocook River in the VFW to promote awareness of the River Committee
- ~ Coffee urns & water coolers

**Joe and Jon Manley**

- ~ Inform Michelle Hamm at MPM at next River Advisory Committee meeting

**Valerie:**

- ~ Advertise the event in newspapers, Pierce School, Town Offices, GEP Dodge Library, Transfer Station, and local businesses week of April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The flyer will include the following: wearing bright clothing and gloves, asking for salads and dessert donations for the cookout
- ~ Contact Doreen Robertson from Bennington Democrats (they usually clean-up South Bennington Rd.)
- ~ Contact Peter Martel to see if the Wapack Youth Robotics would like to sell energy saving LED light bulbs in the VFW this year
- ~ Contact Tammy Blanchette - Cub Scout Leader
- ~ Contact Rose Melanson \*Rose responded to me 3/16 stating that in lieu of a sign-up poster this year, just have a clipboard at the VFW and have people sign up on the day of the event as to where they want to clean up. Sign-ups prior to the event have been minimal.
- ~ Order Blue Bags from the state
- ~ Recycling bins
- ~ Bring large garbage bags from Town Hall
- ~ Purchase hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, condiments, lemonade, tea, paper plates, cutlery
- ~ Large cooler

**John Baybutt:**

- ~ Invite Antrim CC members
- ~ Composting bins for sale at event

**Josh/Jon**

- ~ 1-2 large garbage cans for VFW

**All Members:** Please bring a salad or dessert for the cookout!

**4. Map of Potential Conservation Lands** -Joe spoke with Kristi LaPlante who was going to contact SWRP to see what overlay maps of Bennington and surrounding regions they may have. The CC would request a copy so that we would have a map to start working on to identify land currently in conservation and identify land we would like to consider for future conservation.

**5. Other**

a) An effort is underway to try to put together the old railroad beds to make an accessible walking trail. Someone in Harrisville is working on this project

b) Appointments – Tabled until next time

**Action Item:** John Baybutt will be contacting members not present to see if they are still interested in serving on the Conservation Commission

Meeting Adjourned 7:35 p.m. **Next meeting: April 19, 2012**

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Germain