

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Meeting- May 21, 2015  
Minutes Approved on- June 18, 2015

Present: John Baybutt, Valerie Germain, Jon Manley, Joe MacGregor, Stephen Willette

Chairman Baybutt called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Minutes

- a. The minutes from the April 16, 2015 meetings were approved as written.

2. Old Business

- a. UNH Barry Conservation Camp
  - i. Valerie updated the Commissioners regarding the individual who will be attending the camp. The camp deposit was paid out of the Conservation Commissioners budget. A committee for the Edes Scholarship will meet next Thursday to review the eleven scholarship applications they have received.
- b. After-School Science Club
  - i. The second-grade after-school session will be a four week session to learn about insects and soil. Valerie reported that there are 8 second-graders attending the program.
  - ii. Valerie reported that she has been hired as the fourth-grade teacher for Pierce School for next school year. She is hoping to run the science club as a school sponsored program.
- c. NH Timber Owners Association Annual Meeting
  - i. Jon reported that he attended the TOAA meeting held in Bennington, NH on Saturday May 9, 2015. The event began at Hardwick's proceed to Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center to view the woodchip heating plant, and ended with a tour at the Monadnock Paper Mill. Jon reported it was a well attended event.
  - ii. John asked if anyone can join the Association. Jon believes that anyone can join.
- d. Stewart Gravel Pit Site Walk
  - i. The Commissioners discussed the site walk. It was reported that the Planning Board approved the excavation permit renewal. The Commissioners will ask the Planning Board how much land is not under reclamation at this point and how much land could be reclaimed on the current bond.
  - ii. The Commissioners expressed interest in working in conjunction with the Planning Board to look at the formula used to establish bonds.

3. New Business

- a. Lot line adjustment
  - i. The Commissioners were notified of a lot line adjustment on Dodge Hill Rd between Sally Warren and Ray Lyons.
- b. Spring Newsletter
  - i. Jon submitted a write up to Kristie LaPlante regarding the Railroad bridge trestle to be included in the Town Spring Newsletter. Jon reported that the Selectmen are sending a letter to DOT regarding the trestle.
  - ii. Val submitted information on the Earth Day cleanup, invasive species, and that the Commissioners will be working on the Natural Resources Inventory for the Newsletter. Val also included an invitation to come to the Commissioners meetings as they are looking for new members.

- c. Invasive Species Eradication
  - i. The Commissioners considered using a map of the Town to mark where invasive species are located.
- d. Putting Land into Conservation
  - i. John proposed inviting the Society of Protection of NH Forests to do a presentation on putting land into conservation. When this is set up the Commissioners will invite the Planning Board and contact individuals in town with large pieces of land to the presentation.
- e. Collaboration with Frankestown Conservation Commissioners
  - i. Val was contacted by Scott Heath who is a member of the Frankestown Conservation Commission. She will contact Scott regarding Frankestown attending next month's meeting.
- f. Spraying Herbicides
  - i. Val requested a letter be written to Crotched Mountain Ski Area requesting herbicides not be sprayed on their parking lots.
  - ii. It was reported the there was spraying along the Railroad tracks. The Conservation Commissioners will contact the individual and express their desire for the Commissioners to keep the area clear.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Karen Bartlett  
Conservation Commission Recording Secretary