

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting- April 20, 2017

Minutes Approved on- May 18, 2017

Present: Valerie Germain, Stephen Willette, Tom James, Jon Manley, Joe MacGregor, Mike Munhall, and John Baybutt

Co-Chair Stephen Willette called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Minutes
 - a. The minutes from the March 23, 2017 meeting were approved with a minor amendment.
2. NRI Phase II
 - a. Jeff Littleton will meet with the Commissioners on May 18, 2017 to discuss Phase II for the NRI. The Commissioners will invite other Town Board Chairmen, Selectmen, and the Administrator to this discussion.
3. Perambulation
 - a. The Hancock-Bennington perambulation was postponed. The Commissioners set a tentative date for June 10, 2017 at 9 a.m. at the Bennington VFW.
4. Camper Applications
 - a. The Commissioners reviewed the applications received for the Harris Center Camp opportunity. Co-Chair Stephen Willette made a motion to select the following applicants for the camper scholarships: Ronan Clough (Voyagers) and Harley Wilson (Rovers). The recipients will be invited to the Earth Day breakfast to be presented the scholarships.
 - b. Jon Manley suggested that those who are awarded the camp opportunity highlight their experience at the following year's Earth Day event.
5. Earth Day
 - a. Jon Manley reported that although Douglas Cygan is unable to be present at the Earth Day event, he did provide copies of New Hampshire Guide to Upland Invasive Species. He is interested in meeting with the Commissioners regarding this topic. Jon also spoke with the Harris Center regarding setting up an informative table for vernal pools, but they are unavailable. They are interested in scheduling something for next year.
 - b. Earth Day Event jobs in preparation for the day
 - i. NRI Maps- Valerie Germain will bring to the VFW
 - ii. Earth Day Notices will go home tomorrow with students
 - iii. Waffle irons- Joe, Jon
 - iv. Coffee- Jon
 - v. Water Cooler- Jon
 - vi. Syrup- Jon
 - vii. Tent- Jon

- viii. Shopping- Mike (Val will provide list)
 - ix. Eggs- Tom
 - x. Vernal Pool Display- Jon
 - xi. Invasive Species Table- Jon
 - xii. Invites to Fire Department and Highway- Joe
 - xiii. Notification to Town Offices and Police- Val
 - xiv. Easel and Paper Sign- Val
 - xv. Newspaper- Mike
 - xvi. Egg Casserole (Jeff at Common Place)- Joe
- c. Val has asked a former fourth grader to help as a volunteer during the event with cleanup.
6. Joe and Jon attended the Planning Board hearing last week regarding the Dollar General that is proposed to be located near Rymes. They shared their concerns with the Planning Board regarding the impact it could have on the wetlands. The engineers on the project are proposing catch basins and explained in detail the plans they have in place. The hearing will be continued on Monday, April 24, 2017 at the proposed site.
 7. Tom asked the Commissioners if they would be interested setting up a table at the Rhubarb Festival. The Commissioners also discussed putting together a float for the Festival.
 8. Co-Chairman Stephen reported that his son has been helping him clean up the Bruce Edes Forest.
 9. Co-Chairman Valerie offered contacting Carrie Whittemore regarding Conservation Commission and Bruce Edes shirts. She will contact Commissioners regarding sizes.
 10. A tentative date was set for June 24, 2017 for the River Float at 9 a.m. An invitation will be extended to the River Committee. This event will be highlighted at the Earth Day clean up and the Rhubarb Festival.
 11. Joe shared with the Commissioners the map he received from David MacKenzie that shows Drinking water: Groundwater protection. It was noted Bennington is not a town with this protection.

As there was no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Karen Bartlett

Conservation Commission Recording Secretary