

Canterbury Conservation Commission
MINUTES June 12, 2017

Present: Kelly Short, chair; Jon Nute, treasurer; Bob Fife, Steve Seron, Linda Fife, Charlie Krautmann, , Chris Blair, Ken Stern, Teresa Wyman, Arthur Hudson (BOS Representative)

Absent: Bob Steenson, Faith Berry, Tom Osmer

Permits – None received.

Morrill Road lot: Chris Blair reported that although the lot being discussed is available, the Board of Selectmen is not interested in purchasing it. Arthur Hudson said the BOS is just not in favor of purchasing any more land right now. Bob Fife was not able to get ahold of the Snow Shakers to ask if they spoke with the residents who purchased the adjacent lot to see if they'd allow the trail to cross over their driveway. He will reach out to them again.

Riverland: Kelly Short spoke with Ken Folsom who gave permission to coordinate with the highway department to remove any debris pulled out of the area. John Nute and other members walked the area and reported on their findings. They felt the material is in good shape and thought some could be repurposed at some of our other properties. Nute mentioned there is a stewardship network with UNH and suggested we contact them to offer any material we couldn't repurpose ourselves. The thought is to dismantle and bring it all out to the parking lot to determine what should be done with it.

Ken Stern will look for the survey of this property to check whether we own the back side of it.

Boundary Marking Project: Kelly was not able to talk with Mark Stevens about marking the Misery lot. Charlie offered to take on that task and will also obtain an estimate of cost.

CCC Work plan: At our last meeting we discussed land management planning and the possibility of proposing a warrant to add a parcel(s) to the town forest. This would allow us to manage the property and generate funds to use for other land management projects. There was concern about how much the CC is trying to get done this year and where projects fall in the remaining months. Kelly and Chris prepared an outline of the various projects, a summary of each project, a rough due date, who would take the lead, etc. Members discussed timelines and who would be involved with each project.

Charlie will head the Riverland walkway removal project. Ken will take the Peverly Meadow project and will walk the property with staff from the State for monitoring purposes. Kelly will send her notes on the property to Ken.

Land Management Planning: We previously discussed modes of ensuring that town owned conservation lands are conserved as they need to be and considered our land management tasks, along with costs, and logistics. We have a couple options: 1) We could add easements which, on the plus side, means it is an irrevocable conservation, and, on the down side, is more expensive. Or, 2) We could add parcels to the town forest.

The town forest can be comprised of many different parcels which do not have to be adjacent. The benefit of creating a forest is the property is under the management of the CC. It allows funds from land management activities to accrue in a land management fund, which can be used on any property we maintain. We would not have to ask for warrant funding or for additional funds in our budget if it was in the town forest. This also helps create a flow of income to do our regular work.

The members seem to have a general interest in adding parcels to our town forest. In order to do that, we would have to do a warrant and either have it done for the March 2018 Town Meeting, or we can think further out than that. Ken thought we should propose that Schoodac be added to the town forest due to its size, location, and natural resources. Nute said when considering land for town forest you would want to look at its historic value and commercial potential as well.

Right now the town owns Schoodac and could do anything they want on the parcel. If it became part of the town forest, any projects the town wanted to do on the property would have to go through a town vote for approval.

Kelly suggested we consider easements on some properties as well. We should look at each property to determine its best use. She asked Art if the BOS would have any input on this. Art didn't think there was enough knowledge by the BOS to have an opinion and thought Kelly may want to attend one of their meetings to discuss ideas. Kelly will talk to Jan Stout to get on the agenda.

May Minutes: Ken moved to accept the minutes. Steve seconded. Discussion: Teresa Wyman needed to be added as absent, and the word easement needed to be removed from line 71. Vote: Unanimous. Minutes were approved.

Other:

- Canterbury Fair: Teresa, Chris, Tom, and Kelly will be available to sit at a booth. Kelly then made a motion to have booth at the fair, seconded by Nute. Discussion: None. Vote approved.
- UNH Botanists: Kelly asked Steve if he went out with the botanists from UNH. He reported he has been ill with the flu and wasn't able to go. Kelly then explained there is a botany group in the state working with UNH and asked for permission to collect and document two specimens in town. Once they have ID'd the specimens, they will send a list to us.

- 92 - Same Lake House Renovations: Art updated members on the status of the
93 renovations. He said it has been a long process but we're close to finalizing a
94 project. They have a meeting with the builder and are closer to having a warrant
95 article. He commended the committee members who have all done a great job.
96 Art said there is a projected start date of July and a proposed completion date
97 toward the end of November.
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99 Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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101 Next meeting: July 10, 2017

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103 Submitted by Lori Gabriella

104 Administrative Assistant to Conservation Commission