

**Canterbury Conservation Commission**  
**DRAFT MINUTES 9-14-2023**

**Present:** Kelly Short, Ken Stern (via video), Steve Seron; Audra Klumb, Lance Messenger, Bob Steenson.

Additional Attendees: Sumner Dole

Meeting opened at 7:11pm.

1. **Approval of August Minutes** — Steve motion to approve as drafted; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Audra. No discussion; Vote: 4 in favor, 2 abstain (Kelly & Bob)

**2. Master Plan**

A. Kelly delivered an update on the Planning Board process of open meetings for public input. The next open meetings will be the Oct 10 and Nov 14 Planning Board meetings.

B. The land use chapter is in draft form. The CCC edits were forwarded to CNHRPC. Most CCC suggestions were incorporated.

C. ***Action item:** CCC members to review the latest draft edited by CNHRPC and provide comments to Kelly by Sept 18<sup>th</sup>.*

D. ***Action item:** with the consent of CCC members, Kelly will consolidate comments and forward to the Planning Board and CNHRPC.*

E. There was a brief discussion of Zoning Ordinance updates needed.

**3. Property Management**

**A. Riverland**

i. Second week of October is tentative timing for chemical treatment of invasives. ***Action item:** Kelly to determine if closure is required due to treatment.*

ii. Sumner Dole, attending, suggests exploring a UNH Extension Research Project to assist in controlling invasives. Kelly gave a brief explanation of the CCC process to date involving the NH Dept of Agriculture.

iii. Chris Aiken, Highway Dept. subcontractor mowed the overgrown areas within budget. Ken reports that it was a great job although the Bittersweet grew right back.

iv. Volunteer Carol Breule raised concerns to Ken about the remnants of the brush mowing. The CCC decided it would be appropriate to formally thank Carol for her efforts maintaining the area. ***Action item:** Ken to call Carol or send letter.*

- v. **Action Item:** *contact David Day and Lucy Nicols about resuming their mowing activities now that the area is mowable again.*
- vi. CCC to schedule reconnaissance session on site to review large tree at the NW corner of Lucy Nichols' field (on town property) – she is concerned it will fall; and to consider best treatment for invasive Autumn Olive. **Action item:** *Kelly to email regarding dates and times.*

#### B. Fife Area

- i. Rangeway path cleared by Lance;
- ii. Large pines have been cut down and removed.
- iii. Work session required to prune along the stone wall and the rock piles. **Action item:** *Kelly to circulate dates/times.*
- iv. Discussion regarding mowing the perimeter of the field in addition to the ½ already scheduled.
- v. Motion by Kelly to include the field perimeter in the annual half-field mowing scope. Second by Audra. Discussion: Steve and Bob spoke in support. Vote: unanimous, motion passes.
- vi. **Action item needed:** *contact mower.*

#### 4. DES Permits

No open items.

#### 5. 2024 Priorities

- A. Budget requests due to BOS Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. **Action item:** *Lance will bring a draft budget to the October meeting.*
- B. Conservation project for the land behind Shaker Village
- C. Additional conservation project if Shaker Village does not proceed – Sumner suggested contacting Bob DiBerto about Barnett Road parcels contiguous to other conserved land.
- D. Conclude the Priorities project and mapping.
- E. Establishment of a Canterbury Trails Committee.
  - i. Discussion ensued about form and focus; whether the committee could be stand-alone or a sub-committee of the CCC.
  - ii. Sumner noted that a trails committee needs proper training and suggested Belknap Mountain “BRATS” as a resource/guidance.

F. Suggestion to see if anyone involved in the CUCC Environmental Committee might be interested in joining as CCC alternates and/or Trail Committee members.

G. Lance suggested updating the town website with video, photos and messaging to provide an overview of conservation. Lance will outline suggested improvements for Commission to review.

**6. Class VI Roads**

Discussion of Planning Board vote confirming the status of various. Brief review of the BOS criteria for Class VI Road Waivers.

**7. Other Business**

A. Sumner updated the CCC on a pending USDA Wetland Reserve Conservation Easement on his Forest Pond property. Kelly inquired if the easement will allow or require public access. Sumner noted there will be some limited public access with areas around the pond posted.

B. Steve reports that Mr. Thunberg inquired about a monitoring visit to his property. It is scheduled for 2024. *Action item: Kelly to confirm with Chris Kane and let Steve know.*

**8. Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn at 8:40pm. All in favor.**

Minutes by Bob Steenson