

1 **Canterbury Conservation Commission**

2 **DRAFT MINUTES of August 11, 2022 Meeting**

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4 Present: Ken Stern, Bob Steenson (BOS rep), Audra Klumb, Steve Seron, Teresa Wyman

5 Absent: Kelly Short, Bob Fife,

6 Ken Stern, chair, presided and began the meeting at 7 pm.

7 **Approval of July 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

8 Audra made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 2022 CCC meeting. Steve Seron seconded.

9 3 members voted to approve the minutes. One member abstained because he had not attended the
10 meeting. (Teresa had not arrived yet)

11 **Wetlands Permit Application for O'Brien Project**

12 The CCC received a copy of the completed O'Brien wetland application prepared by TF Moran. All
13 seemed in order. There were no comments.

14 **Alteration of Terrain Permit Application for Storage Facility on Rte 106**

15 NH DES sent the applicant a letter requesting more information. We received a copy of the letter. There
16 was no discussion of the project.

17 **Riverland Conservation Area**

18 Ken reported that he had joined two people from the State Land Conservation Stewardship Program,
19 Charlotte Harding and Jocelyn Duffey, on an easement monitoring visit. The town retains Chris Kane to
20 monitor these easements where the Town is the easement holder. The State is the executory interest
21 holder. They try to visit all properties where they have an interest at least every few years. They walked
22 the town land and the privately owned land under conservation easement.

23 Lucy Nichols joined them for the first part of the visit. She explained the history of troubles in the
24 parking lot and the continuing efforts to control the invasives. Lucy and her husband have made
25 progress reclaiming their fields from the invasives. It is still not suitable for grazing their sheep. Lucy
26 explained her desire to have a clear fence surrounding the pasture so she can bring her sheep in. Lucy
27 mentioned two specific areas where she would like assistance from the town in controlling the
28 invasives. One item is a huge poplar at the northern corner of the field. There were two stems there,
29 one had fallen into her field which she had cleaned up. She is concerned that the other one will also be
30 coming down soon and make a huge mess. The other item discussed is the row of boulders at the
31 parking area that are covered in invasives. The presence of these boulders prevent mowing the area.
32 She would like the boulders removed to facilitate the town's maintenance of the area around the
33 parking lot.

34 Ken and the State officials then toured the town property, the beach and the river frontage of the
35 private property which is under easement. They noted that the private property owners had each

36 developed a small area with a few chairs and a fire pit at the top of the bluff to enjoy the view. At the
37 beach there is now a safety station with life preservers and other first aid.

38 The CCC members then discussed potential maintenance at the Riverland. Controlling the invasives is a
39 large and perpetual issue. The town, the Nichols and the Days all put in significant effort in maintaining
40 the area. The members discussed Lucy's request to remove the boulders. Concern was expressed about
41 the cost of this project and also avoiding potential benefit to private land owners from the expenditure
42 of town funds. The CCC has a very limited budget. Bob Steenson indicated that this project was too large
43 for the town road crew to take on. Ken agreed to seek an estimate from a contractor so we have an idea
44 of the scope of work.

45 **Review of Maps**

46 The commission members reviewed the latest versions of the resource maps. Notes were made on a
47 few of the maps with suggestions for further refinement. Everyone was pleased with the progress which
48 has been made.

49 The members viewed four potential interpretations and presentations of the co-occurrence evaluation.
50 All agreed that one of the maps stood out as the preferred presentation. The selected map had four
51 discrete categories of point count and included points for areas adjacent to existing conservation lands.
52 We found it was easier to look at and understand, provides better guidance for targeting conservation
53 efforts and shows the most information. Ken will report these results to Kelly.

54 **UMRLAC vacancy**

55 Bob Steenson mentioned there is a vacancy on the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee for
56 a representative from Canterbury. None of the members expressed an interest in serving on this
57 committee. It was suggested that the Selectmen put a notice in the newsletter and town email.

58 Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

59 Respectfully submitted, Ken Stern

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