

Canterbury Conservation Commission
MINUTES
July 10, 2017

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

Absent: Bob Steenson, Faith Berry, Tom Osmer, Steve Seron,

Others Present: Mike Seriakas, Andrew Kalgrens, Rebecca Kalgrens

Permits – The Kalgrens submitted a request for expedited Wetlands Permit Application for tax map/lot 234-2 at Intervale Road. Mike Seriakas, representing the Kalgrens, presented and explained the plan for the members review.

The Kalgrens recently purchased the 5.688 acre lot that abuts the Merrimack River. They are building a four bedroom house about 200-225 feet back from the road. The land is a sandy house lot with big ravines in the back. They are not building near the ravines. Their application relates to a drainage ditch on the road where the driveway will be. They need their driveway to cross the ditch to get on to their property. The proposed project would have 217 square feet of impact. Ken Stern asked about the setback on the river, which has a 200-foot requirement. Mike said they well beyond the setback limit and pointed it out on the plan. Kelly Short asked about the stream running within the drainage ditch. Mike said it's intermittently wet and, right now, is completely dry. They will install a pipe arc culvert 21" wide, 18" high, with a natural bottom in the area where the driveway will be. The driveway will be gravel. Mike stated they would like to start building this year and will be filing the application with the State once it is signed.

With no additional questions or concerns from the members, Jon Nute moved to approve the application, seconded by Bob Fife. Vote: Unanimous. The request for CC approval of the exptedited wetlands permit application was granted. Kelly signed the permits.

Kimball Pond - Fife Conservation Area property management: Kelly brought a map of the area for members to use when discussing the land. Kelly explained that last Thursday Bob Fife, Ken Stern, Kelly Short, and Tom Osmer met Laura French from Ecosystem Services and walked a good amount of the Kimball-Fife Conservatin Areas. Laura had already walked all of the property.

Laura is working with us to help fine tune our priorities and achieve our goals for this property: conserving the view, water quality, and wildlife habitat. They also talked about the notion of maintaining biodiversity which is one of the overarching goals of the Commission.

Discussion moved on to the five bullet points of Laura's Summary which detailed the existing general ownership objectives, broken out by the Fife Conservation area and the Kimball Pond Conservation area. After discussion about each objective, the members

47 agreed to combine two of the wildlife bullet points, leaving 4 objectives. Kelly explained
48 that Laura would like us to get more specific within each area of the property in order to
49 help her reach the point of providing land management recommendations to the
50 Commission.

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52 Members discussed the invasives section of the report with respect to using mechanical
53 controls (mowing) or herbicides to control the invasives. Herbicide use would be
54 targeted therapy. Nute pointed out that only someone licensed by the state can apply
55 herbicides on public property; we can't do it ourselves. Controlling seed sources was also
56 discussed.

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58 Discussion turned to the Woodland Road Area 1 (on the map), which is the southeast
59 corner of the pond. Ken said the areas are defined by soil and vegetation and explained
60 the delineation of the map. Area 1, is a mix of pine and hardwoods and Laura felt it
61 should largely be left as is other than a few suggestions. The general consensus was that
62 trails would be great. Ken would love to see a nice walking trail through much of the
63 property. Other members agreed. We may want Laura to identify a walking route and
64 areas overtaken by certain seed sources as well. Art Hudson said last year people wanted
65 to see a trail from the center of town, down and around Kimball Pond. Kelly stated
66 although it was outside of what we are working with Laura on, we will make note of that
67 desire. It was agreed that maintaining a forest buffer to protect water quality is
68 important. Bob would like to see the water quality monitored and tested. Kelly said there
69 is money in the budget for that. Ken would like to target poison ivy as well. Laura
70 suggested goats as a possible control for the poison ivy and sumac. Members suggested
71 thinning around the sign to the pond The members recognized Art Hudson for all the
72 recent mowing around Bob's bench.

73
74 It was agreed to talk about Areas 2, 4, and 6 collectively (These are forested areas west
75 and north of the pond; areas 2 and 4 are surrounded by 6), but that they could have
76 varying priorities

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78 Areas 4 (the orchard) and 6 (other forest between the pond or field and Burnham Brook)-
79 It was discussed that more pine trees could be cut and removed to release the apples. Ken
80 pointed out that it took many people over many years to cut, remove, and clean the area
81 and just wanted the members to be aware of that when planning. Kelly stated that would
82 fall under continuing maintenance. Chris felt we should tie budget discussions in with
83 this.

84
85 Forestry is going to be challenging in Area 6 due to the high risk of blow-down if the stand
86 was thinned out. Laura's summary gave high intensity and low intensity options. She also
87 talked about removing hazard trees along the trail and along with the buckthorn. After
88 discussion it was felt that water quality and esthetics were the main goals, along with trail
89 maintenance. The plan would be to manage area 4 and edge into area 6 to create
90 additional food sources for wildlife.

Area 2 (forest between pond and brook): This area is mixed forest. Kelly reviewed the notes Laura provided for this area. Water quality, wildlife habitat, recreation and education are all objectives here. Members felt education and recreation do not seem to be high priorities at this point. Kelly will ask Laura why those were included and what she saw. It was felt that water quality was first, recreation was second. There would be no extraordinary effort for wildlife in this particular area of the land.

Area 7 (Kinter's Garden): Laura identified water quality, wildlife habitat, recreation and education as objectives and made suggestions about management. There was discussion about new plantings to encourage biodiversity, which Nute said is tough to do in the woods. The Kinters donated this section subject to a life estate, so it is not yet under CCC management.

Area 3 (large forested area west of Burnham Brook wetland): A general request would be to show all the trails as an overlay. Chris Blair felt recreation and education is a high priority in this area. Kelly said when they walked the property and were standing just east of the brook, the brook side of the trail had relatively few invasives, had young oak, and was in good shape. East of the trail, (the upland side), the understory was mostly invasives. If we took down big trees on the upland side, that would encourage the invasives.

Ken requested, in the absence of Tom Osmer, to declare one area a hunting spot. Kelly asked if Area 3 should be off limit to hunting. Art felt it should be as he is more of an animal activist. If we don't post the property, then State laws apply, allowing hunting with certain restrictions. Everyone's homework is to read the management plan for the Hildreth property and read what it says about hunting. We will continue with Area 3 next time.

Fair Planning: Chris Blair, Teresa Wyman, Kelly Short, and Tom Osmer will work the fair. They will work together, outside the meeting to finalize that plan.

June Minutes: Ken moved to accept the minutes. Teresa seconded. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous. June Minutes were approved.

Other: There was a meeting with the Historic District Commission on the 8 Center Road property relative to a new garage. Art attended and said Kevin Bragg will work with the applicants about where they'll put the garage. It is proceeding with cosmetic changes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Next meeting: August 14, 2017

Submitted by Lori Gabriella
Administrative Assistant to Conservation Commission