

Canaan Conservation Commission

January 4, 2010

Attendees: Kate Brooks, Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Alice Schori

Conservation Commission Members

- Alice Schori has requested that she be moved from full-time status to alternate.
- Sara Coons has been accepted as a full-time member
- Jamie Jukowsky actually resigned a year ago, but his name remains on the roster.
- We need to submit a corrected list of members to the Select board. It should read as follows:

Regular members:

Aaron Allen, co-chair
Bill Chabot, co-chair
Kate Brooks, Clerk
Elizabeth Chabot, Secretary
Sara Coons
Len Reitsma

Alternate:

Alice Schori

Nature Hut (TREC)

- It's time to start thinking about the trail system around the Nature Hut. Winter would be a great time to start marking them. Bill will email Len to start discussing possible dates.

Mascoma River Nominating Committee meeting

- To be held Tuesday January 12 at the Enfield Community building. Bill and Noel to attend.
- The Upper Valley Trails Alliance advocates for the use, maintenance and development of trails in

Misc

- Our annual report for the town is due. Bill will write that and send it to Mike.

Minutes

- There were no minutes for approval this month- the December minutes will be reviewed in February.

Bill made a motion to adjourn- Alice seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday February 1, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center

Canaan Conservation Commission

February 1, 2010

Attendees: Kate Brooks, Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Aaron Allen, Len Reitsma, Julie Thomason

Guest: Erin Darrow

Nature Hut (TREC)

- Elizabeth and Sara need to coordinate some dates with Len to start marking trails. Alice supplied the marking tape.

Mascoma River Nominating Committee meeting

- Bill and Noel attended. A walk is planned for Feb 27th along the rail trail portion near Icehouse road in Enfield.
- At a later date, Alice would be happy to join such walks to identify plants
- Our commission needs to put forth a recommendation for the Nomination of the Mascoma River. The CC from Lebanon issues a letter of backing

Misc

- Bill submitted our annual report to the town
- Len attended a talk this past Saturday on the Greenlands ruling and house bill 222 which is relative to fill and dredge permits in wetlands. HB 222 proposes to define "indirect impacts" and would mandate the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) consider "indirect impacts" when granting, denying or conditionally approving any wetland dredge and fill permit. The DES would be rendered less capable of exerting authority over wetlands. This bill is currently being opposed and has been assigned to subcommittee
- Peg Merrins would like to reactivate the discussion on easements on the Town Forest. Bill to follow through with Peg. There might be some money available. Len is supportive of this.
- Erin Darrow joined us to review a permit request on Rogers Way. Aaron will walk the site tomorrow morning and will touch base with Erin afterwards to be sure the permit is submitted to Vicky at the town office. Erin will call the road agent to see if he has any concerns.

Minutes

- Minutes from December and January were reviewed. Bill moved to approve them both, Len seconded, all approved.

Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn- Bill seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday March 1, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center

Canaan Conservation Commission

March 1, 2010

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Aaron Allen, Len Reitsma, Julie Thomason

Guest: Erin Darrow

Earth Day Clean-up

- This year's clean up is scheduled for Saturday April 24th. Bill will email the town and will request that the event is posted on the town website/calendar
- Aaron has contact information for the Cub Scouts and will give to Bill
- The thought is to have a Commission 'group clean up' first, probably along Canaan Street towards Canaan. We will do some pre-scouting to see what needs clean up.

Nature Hut (TREC)

- Trail marking scheduled for April 3rd. This will be a morning event to start marking trails around the hut. Len will help guide us around the woods.

McKee Parcel

- There appears to be timbering on the property. This is permitted on a scheduled basis. Aaron will double check that all is in order, but apparently Jim Burnett has laid out the cut and is really on top of the cut and postings.

Misc

- Reminder to Elizabeth to paint the sign board
- In February, Erin Darrow joined us to review a permit request on Rogers Way. Aaron walked the site and signed the permit
- Bill and Elizabeth attended the UVLT/Conservation Commission gathering held at the Bugbee Center in White River. Two Commissions presented some of their recent work. The Thetford Group recently held a very short-term fundraiser to acquire enough funds to purchase a piece of land that has been very important to school groups for many years. The Bradford group spoke about their on-going fundraising efforts and community presence.
- Don't forget to vote on March 9!

Minutes

- Minutes from February were reviewed. Len moved to approve them, Bill seconded, all approved.

Len made a motion to adjourn- Bill seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday April 5, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center

Canaan Conservation Commission

April 5, 2010

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Julie Thomason, Marcia Wilson

WELCOME to our new Selectman, Marcia Wilson!

Earth Day Clean-up

- This year's clean up is scheduled for Saturday April 24th.
- Cardigan Mountain School is volunteering 24 students and 2 teachers to help
- We will meet at the beach at 9am and write down who is cleaning up which street(s) so Aaron can pick up the bags.
- The bags were supplied by the state

Nature Hut (TREC)

- We started to work on the trail system. Len was unable to be with us on the scheduled day so he started marking the trails for us ahead of time.
- We need to pick a date to start building the ramp and steps

McKee Parcel

- The issue of the sale of the parcel south of route 4 continues to drag on with no resolution. Marcia volunteered to talk to 'the town' to see what can be done to move the proceedings forward.
- The annual walk needs to be conducted. Bill will talk to Aaron to schedule.

Mascoma River Nominating Committee meeting

- The proposal will be presented to the Selectboard on April 27
- Bill will start checking to see who the abutters of the river are so they can be made aware

Misc

- Annual presentation: we should start planning an event at the Nature Hut
- We need to ask the town when last years "current use" money will be allocated to the Commission

Minutes

- There were no minutes from March- they will be presented at the May meeting

Alice made a motion to adjourn- Marcia seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday May 3, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center

Canaan Conservation Commission

May 3, 2010

Attendees: Aaron Allen Julie Thomason, Kate Brooks, Bill Chabot, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Laura Monroe, Marcia Wilson

Nature Hut (TREC)

- Aaron has ordered the wood for the ramp and stairs. Cost expected to be \$984. This does not require vote as it is within our budgeted amount
- We will schedule Saturday July 10 for our next work day

Mascoma River Nominating Committee meeting

- Bill attended the Mascoma River Nominating Committee presentation to the Planning Board & Conservation Commissions of Lebanon. He, as well as Aaron, Alice and Julie attended last week's meeting of the Canaan Selectboard, at which a vote regarding the nomination of the Mascoma River was expected. A decision was deferred pending a vote from the planning board. The Planning Board's next meeting is scheduled for May 13th at 7pm at the senior center.

Board nomination

- Julie Thomason would like to join the Commission as a full-time member.
 - Elizabeth moved to accept her as a full time member. Aaron seconded. All approved.

Earth Day clean up

- Bill, Aaron, Elizabeth, Alice, Julie and Marcia participated in the 4th Annual Earth Day Roadside Cleanup. This was our most successful event to date, with 80-100 bags of trash, 60+tires, & a 1/2 truck load of scrap metal collected. Approximately a dozen residents joined in the cleanup, as well as 25+ students & 2 teachers from the Cardigan Mountain School.
- Bill is completing the state paperwork for the daffodils.

Misc

- The Water Source Protection Committee is looking for a volunteer. Their meetings are on Monday.
- We plan to meet at the Meeting house during the summer, starting in June. Aaron to confirm that it is available
- Aaron, Bill, & Elizabeth helped the town of Orange plant trees along a deforested area on the back side of Cardigan. Orange had a total of 2000 trees to plant, including Black Walnut, White Pine, & two varieties of Spruce.

Minutes

- We reviewed minutes from March and April
 - Aaron moved to accept the minutes, Bill seconded. All approved.

Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn- Aaron seconded. All approved.

***Next Meeting Monday June 7, 2010 7:00
To be held at the Meetinghouse pending availability***

Canaan Conservation Commission

June 7, 2010

Attendees: Aaron Allen, Laura Monroe, Bill Chabot, Len Reitsma, Marcia Wilson, Julie Thomason, Kate Brooks, Elizabeth Chabot

Nature Hut (TREC)

- A work day is scheduled for July 10th. Meet at Aaron's house.

Mascoma River Nominating Committee meeting

- The final Selectboard vote was neutral which allows the nomination to move forward. It is anticipated that the state will approve. Nomination should be complete in 1 year.

Mrs Chalmer's property

- We received an unexpected invoice from the Society for the Protection of NH Forests for \$4786.05. In November of '09 we discussed offering some assistance, provided there was Public access to the property. By December we had received word that the deal was closed and no other action was required. Bill will obtain a copy of the deed to review for access. If access is allowed, we will offer \$1950 towards the cost.

Misc

- Erin Darrow presented a proposed culvert on Reagan Road. It is a replacement in-kind over an intermittent stream.
 - Len made a motion that pending Aaron's visit to the site, we approve Erin's request.
 - All approved. Aaron to accompany Erin to the site post-meeting
- We need to review our 'mission' and the Commission Rule Book. Aaron to see if he has a copy.
- We would like to investigate if we can petition to increase the LUCT
- Len is leading a hike of the Bear Pond Natural Area, focusing on the Canada Warbler. It is this Saturday the 12th from 2-5:00
- Trail maintenance has been rescheduled at Mink Brook this Saturday from 10-2. Bill and Elizabeth to represent the Canaan Commission
- On June 25th, the NH Rivers Council is offering an Invasives training of aquatic plants. Julie is part of this program and all are invited to attend.

Commission members

- Laura should be moved to alternate.
- Sara Coons has asked that she be removed from the membership

Minutes

- We reviewed minutes from May
 - Kate moved to accept the minutes, Aaron seconded. All approved.

Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn- Aaron seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday July 12, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Meetinghouse

Canaan Conservation Commission

July 12, 2010

Attendees: Aaron Allen, Bill Chabot, Marcia Wilson, Kate Brooks

Nature Hut (TREC)

- The work day this past Saturday was rained out. A new date to be scheduled.

Mrs Chalmer's property

- Regarding the payment to New Hampshire Society of the Protection of Forests for Mrs Chalmers property: Aaron and Bill reviewed the deed and public access is allowed. The selectboard approved paying the invoice in full.
 - Aaron moved that the Commission pay the invoice in full
 - Bill seconded the motion
 - All approved

Old Homes Day

- The Conservation commission has a space available for a booth at Old Homes Day. We agreed that the space would be better used by the Canaan Street Lake Association and the Watersource Protection group.
 - Bill moved that we donate our space to the Canaan Street Lake related groups
 - Aaron seconded the motion
 - All approved

Misc

- Erin Darrow has been asked by the Selectboard to make some suggestions for better controlling beach erosion at the lake. She presented some of her thoughts to the commission.
- Still open: We need to schedule a walk of the McKee parcel in order to fill out the 2010 LCHIP forms
- Canaan has a new Town Administrator: Mike Samson
- Marcia asked for opinions on how the various town boards/commissions could communicate better

Minutes

- We reviewed minutes from June
 - Kate moved to accept the minutes, Aaron seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday August 2, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Meetinghouse

Canaan Conservation Commission

August 2, 2010

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Kate Brooks, Julie Thomason, Laura Monroe, Elizabeth Chabot

Nature Hut (TREC)

- The next work day is scheduled for September 11 at Aaron's house

Mrs Chalmer's property

- The Conservation commission received a nice Thank you letter from Mrs Chalmers for our help with the cost of the easement.

Canaan Street Lake- A celebration

- August 8th is the CSL celebration, from noon to 4:00. Bill and Elizabeth will help set up and will assist in the booth as needed.

McKee Property

- Bill and Aaron to schedule a walk in the fall in order to fill out the 2010 LCHIP forms

Misc

- We need to review the CCC NH handbook and re-establish our 'charter'

Minutes

- We reviewed minutes from July. Bill moved to accept the minutes, Julie seconded the motion. All approved.

Bill moved to adjourn, Elizabeth seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday September 13, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Meetinghouse

Canaan Conservation Commission

September 13, 2010

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Aaron Allen, Kate Brooks, Len Rietsma, Marcia Wilson, Elizabeth Chabot

Nature Hut (TREC)

- We met on September 11 and completed one deck and set of steps and most of the second set as well
- The next work day is scheduled for September 25th at 8:30. We should meet at the Nature hut to finish the second deck/steps and install on-site

McKee Property

- Bill and Aaron are scheduled to walk the McKee property on September 25th after our Nature Hut work.

Misc

- The Chalkboard sign is painted.
- Adopt-a-highway: Aaron is reviewing the paperwork. It is a 4-times per year commitment
- We need to review the CCC NH handbook and re-establish our 'charter'. Aaron and Kate to look for the blue books
- Erin Darrow presented a new project for a stream crossing on Gould Road for a proposed subdivision. Currently the bridge would be a driveway to lot 3. There are 94 acres with undetermined subdivision. The bridge will accommodate a road appropriate for future development. Aaron and Bill will walk the area with Erin prior to approval.

Minutes

- We reviewed minutes from August. Bill moved to accept the minutes, Aaron seconded the motion. All approved.

Marcia moved to adjourn, Bill seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday October 4, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center

Canaan Conservation Commission

November 1, 2010

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Aaron Allen, Kate Brooks, Marcia Wilson, Elizabeth Chabot, Noel Everts, Julie Thomason, Alice Schori

Adopt-A-Highway

- We have been considering participation in the Adopt a highway program. Aaron investigated what is involved. It would be a 4x per year commitment which we decided is a bit more than we want to do right now. We'll continue with the annual Earth Day cleanup

Nature Hut (TREC)

- We met on September 25th at and installed both sets of decks/steps
- We need to build a ramp from the front deck and hope to have some trails established by next summer
 - January 8th: Trail Day at the hut
- Future discussion: discuss potential uses of the forest and hut

McKee Property

- Bill and Aaron walked the property. All is in order. Bill to complete and submit the required paperwork to the state.
- There is still no update regarding the sale of a portion of the property under easement

Goose Pond no-salt policy

- The Selectmen are working with the road crew on the specific policy regarding winter treatment of Goose Pond road. Safety is a big concern. Are there certain conditions when salt would be allowed? How much salting is being done by residents, which then runs downhill into the pond? What does Hanover use on their portion of the road? Aaron to ask his uncle.
- Marcia to email the Commission the proposal

Misc

- We need to review the CCC NH handbook and re-establish our 'charter'. Alice said she would look for her copy of the blue book
- There is an upcoming planning board meeting at Cardigan Mountain School regarding a new building plan. Elizabeth to represent the Conservation Commission.
- Marcia, as part of her Selectman responsibilities, is tackling "Junkyard vs Junky yards" to see if there are reasonable methods of cleaning up some of the Junky Yards of Canaan that could pose an environmental risk or other risk to neighbors.

Minutes

- We reviewed the September meetings
 - Marcia moved that we approve the minutes with the exception of the typo in her name (Elizabeth agreed to correct prior to submission)
 - Bill seconded
 - All approved
- There was no meeting in October

Aaron moved to adjourn, Marcia seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday December 6th, 2010 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center

Canaan Conservation Commission

December 6, 2010

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Kate Brooks, Elizabeth Chabot, Julie Thomason

With the light turn-out, the majority of the meeting was spent taping a mailing for the Source Water Protection group

Nature Hut (TREC)

- January 8th: Trail Day at the hut

Cardigan Mountain School

- Elizabeth attended the recent Planning Board meeting at CMS. The structure as-presented will help relieve crowded dining space and also offer additional meeting and social space. The school Headmaster expressed the importance of meals as 'family time' for the students and how education continues during informal times as well as in the classroom. The design team presented slides showing the layout of the proposed building as well as the 'business end' of the design such as waste treatment. The Planning Board had some good questions which were addressed, and in all, everyone seemed very positive about the new building project.

Misc

- Current finances: \$34k in our account

Elizabeth moved to adjourn, Kate seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting Monday January 3rd, 2011 7:00

To be held at the Senior Center