

Canaan Conservation Commission

January 7, 2013

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Elizabeth Chabot, Marcia Wilson, Aaron Allen, Hilary Rogers, Alice Schori

Minutes

- Reviewed December minutes. Motion to approve by Aaron, seconded by Bill, motion approved.

Nature Hut

- Bill will email Sharon Duffy, requesting that the Town Website reflect that the Nature Hut is open
- Bill will also email Mike about the easement process
- Marcia will email the teachers regarding interest in using the hut for programming

McKee Parcel

- The logging has stopped. There are no penalties being issued
- Bill drafted a letter to the stage, regarding the violations to the river regulations
- Mike Samson has met with the new owners and they understand the easement requirements
- Bill and Aaron conducted the annual walk.

Other Business

- Marcia asked Mike to put the posting for Conservation Commission members needed on the website. Current members are Bill Chabot, Aaron Allen, and Elizabeth Chabot. Alternates are Hilary Rogers, Noel Everts, Alice Schori and Len Reitsma
- March 11: Tentative date for an appreciation dinner hosted by Cardigan Mountain School for those who work/volunteer with the town.
- December 14: Planning board site review of the Robie property regarding an open gravel pit to be returned to a natural state
- Earth Day Clean up will be April 13th with a rain date of the 20th

Motion to adjourn made by Marcia, seconded by Bill, approved.

Next meeting to be held on February 4, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

March 4, 2013

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Elizabeth Chabot, Marcia Wilson, Aaron Allen, Alice Schori

Minutes

- Reviewed January minutes. Motion to approve by Alice, seconded by Marcia, motion passed.

Nature Hut

- The Town Website reflects that the Nature Hut is open
- Bill will follow up with Mike about the easement process
- Marcia emailed teachers regarding interest in using the Hut. No responses yet.

Other Business

- For the record, there was no meeting in February.
- Appreciation dinner is scheduled at the Cardigan Mountain School for March 13. RSVPs are due by March 6, 2013
- Marcia is not running for Selectboard re-election. She would like to remain involved with the Conservation Commission. She advised that the 'junky yard' initiative she was working on will continue without her.
- The Earth Day clean up is posted on the website. Cardigan Mountain School will provide help once again.
- The New Hampshire cooperative extension sent a request to support 4-H.
 - Bill moved that we donate \$200 in support of the 4-H. Aaron seconded the motion. Motion passed
- The Mascoma River Local Advisory Committee (MRLAC) is also soliciting donations in support of its work.
 - Bill, who is on the MRLAC, explained that they have a \$5,000 per year anticipated budget. Funds are needed for outreach, sponsoring seminars and other activities such as the river clean up (sponsored last year by the Rotary) and reimbursing the Regional Planning Commission for administrative costs (currently, a support person and costs are being donated).
 - The last seminar, on Septic systems, was held in Enfield. Aaron suggested that all participating towns should share the hosting responsibilities of holding seminars.
 - Alice moved that we donate \$500 towards the effort of the MRLAC. Aaron seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 - Note: Bill Chabot abstained from the vote due to his membership on the MRLAC
- Motion to adjourn made by Marcia, seconded by Bill, approved.

Next meeting to be held on April 1, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

April 1, 2013

Attendees: Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Aaron Allen, Alice Schori, Len Reitsma

Minutes

- Reviewed March minutes. Motion to approve by Aaron, seconded by Noel, motion passed.

Earth Day Cleanup

- Scheduled for April 13. Meet at the Canaan Street Lake Beach at 8:30am

Nature Hut

- Dave McAlister to help with the preparation of a warrant article requesting that the CCC be allowed to put the Town Forest in a Conservation Easement

Other Business

- Welcome to Dave McAlister, our new Selectboard representative!
- Dave updated the Commission on the Robie property
- Dave also advised the commission of the Towns desire to increase new business in the area.
- Motion to adjourn made by Aaron, seconded by Bill, approved.

Next meeting to be held on June 3, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

May 6, 2013

Attendees: Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot

Minutes

- Reviewed April minutes. Motion to approve by Bill, seconded by Alice, motion passed.

Earth Day Cleanup

- Originally scheduled for April 13, but snow and ice postponed clean up until the following weekend.
- Cardigan Mountain School cleaned up on Sunday, most other clean up was done Saturday or during the week prior.
- The town picked up the filled bags which was very much appreciated.

Nature Hut

- Dave McAlister to help with the preparation of a warrant article requesting that the CCC be allowed to put the Town Forest in a Conservation Easement
 - Next work day: June 22nd. We will have a casual open house as well
 - Elizabeth to make poster to hang around town
 - Post on town website
 - Print more maps
 - We need to re-do the sign at the parking area
 - We need to ask Aaron if the parking area has been approved by the road commission
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- Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Dave

Next meeting to be held on June 3, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

June 3, 2013

Attendees: Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Elizabeth Chabot, Aaron Allen, Hilary Rogers

Guests: Opal Shinlinger, Ella Shinlinger, Deb Shinlinger, Andrew Shin, Ted Armstrong, Tim Armstrong

Minutes

- Reviewed May minutes. Motion to approve by Aaron, seconded by Noel, motion passed.

Canaan Clean Can Project- *Presented by Opal, Ella and Deb Shinlinger*

- Opal and Ella were inspired by the roadside clean up to initiate a summer-long program of encouraging cleaner roads. Their concept is that if someone feels they need to throw their can out the window, they can throw it at a trashcan with a target. The cans can be sponsored by an individual or family who pledge to maintain the can through the season. In the winter, the cans will be collected and stored.
- The Shinlingers estimate the cost of a "kit" to be \$30. A kit contains the can, the target sign, and a chain to help keep the barrel in place.
- The goal for Phase I is to install 50 cans through out Canaan, and possibly expand into other towns if this proves to be successful.
- The Conservation Commission discussed the proposal amongst themselves and Aaron moved that the Commission expend a total of \$1,500 for phase I of the can project which should cover the 50 kits. Dave seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Nature Hut

- Dave McAlister advised that Mike Sampson will assist with the wording of the warrant article requesting that the CCC be allowed to put the Town Forest in a Conservation Easement
 - Next work day: June 22nd. We will have a casual open house as well
 - Elizabeth made a poster and presented it to the Commission.
 - The date has been posted on the town website
 - Print more maps
 - Cardigan Mountain School is making a sign for the Town Forest
 - Aaron looked into the parking situation at the entrance of the trails and was advised that it is satisfactory for public parking
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- Motion to adjourn made by Aaron, seconded by Bill

Next meeting to be held on July 1, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

August 5, 2013

Attendees: Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Noel Everts, Elizabeth Chabot, Len Reitsma

Minutes

- Reviewed June minutes. Motion to approve by Dave, seconded by Len, motion passed.

Canaan Clean Can Project

- Half of the \$1,500 has been provided to the Shinlingers for the initial purchase of the can kits. When they have distributed the first half, we will provide the balance of the funding

Nature Hut

- Mike Sampson will work on the warrant article requesting that the CCC be allowed to put the Town Forest in a Conservation Easement this fall
- The June open house was unattended.
- The blue trail was completed and the maps are being updated
- Existing trails are weed whacked and cleared
- The visitors log book in the Hut has several entries- the feedback is positive
- No update on the sign that Cardigan Mountain is making

Permits

- Property on Canaan Street lake has received approval to build. They have applied to remove and replace a culvert. Additional paperwork to come.

Miscellany

- The Macoma River LAC is hosting a watershed summit at the end of October. Bill will provide details as available.

Membership

- The Conservation Commission needs more members. A notice was posted on the Town Website, but no new volunteers have stepped forward.
 - Elizabeth's term expired in April. With no new volunteers, she accepted an additional 3 year term, to expire April 2016
 - Len volunteered to move back on the commission as a regular member. His term will expire August 2016

Motion to adjourn made by Len, seconded by Dave

Next meeting to be held on September 9, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

September 9, 2013

Attendees: Dave McAlister, Bill Chabot, Hilary Rogers, Aaron Allen, Noel Everts, Elizabeth Chabot

Guest: Vicky McAlister

Conservation Members- review and Swearing in

- Elizabeth moved that Hilary accept a partial term to end September 2015, Dave seconded, all approved.
- Vicki McAlister swore in Bill, Elizabeth, Hilary, and Aaron. Len was sworn in at the office prior to our meeting.
- Noel's alternate position expires in 2015 and Alices expires in 2016. They need to stop in at the office for a swearing in.

Current members and terms are:

- Bill Chabot, co-chair: April 2014
- Aaron Allen, co-chair: April 2014
- Elizabeth Chabot, Secretary: April 2016
- Hilary Rogers: September 2015
- Len Reitsma: August 2016
- Alice Schori: January 2016 alternate
- Noel Everts: January 2015 alternate

Minutes

- Reviewed August minutes. Motion to approve by Dave, seconded by Bill, motion passed.

McKee Property

- The annual walk is due. Aaron and Bill will schedule.

Nature Hut

- Mike Sampson will write the warrant article in November/December.

Miscellany

- Vicky advised that only 1 property has come out of current use this year.

Motion to adjourn made by Bill, seconded by Elizabeth

Next meeting to be held on October 7, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

October 7, 2013

Attendees: Len Reitsma, Bill Chabot, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Dave McAlister

McKee Property

- The annual walk is Scheduled for this Sunday the 13th.

Minutes

- Reviewed September minutes. Motion to approve by Dave, seconded by Len, motion passed.

Nature Hut

- Mike Sampson will write the warrant article in November/December.

Miscellany

- Mike Samson interested in Mapping local trails/hikes. The Commission suggested the following:
 - Possibly Dave Robie would be interesting in including some of his properties. Bill and Aaron will talk to him
 - Lary pond to River Road
 - Cummings Pond
 - Bear Pond road
 - Review the Hanover map- possibly there are some abutting trails
 - Reference Snow mobile maps
- The Bear Pond area trails need to be cleared. The Conservation Commission would be interested in working with the Mascoma Watershed Conservation Council to clear the trails.
- The New Hampshire Conservation Commission annual meeting is scheduled for November 2nd in Concord.

Motion to adjourn made by Dave, seconded by Bill

Next meeting to be held on November 4, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

November 4, 2013

Attendees: Len Reitsma, Bill Chabot, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Dave McAlister, Noel Everts, Hilary Rogers, Aaron Allen

CCC- Finances

- A deposit of \$749 has been made in our account. Bill will touch base with Gloria regarding what the deposit represents.

McKee Property

- The walk took place October 13. Overall, the property looks good. The logs from last year's unsanctioned logging operation remain. The large trash piles from last year have been cleaned up. Some boundary areas need to be remarked.
- A shed has been noticed on the parcel used to fly model airplanes. This is not allowable according to the deed. Dave will discuss with Russell Lester and possibly invite him to the next meeting for a review of the deed.

Minutes

- There were no meeting minutes to review

Miscellany

- A New Deck proposal was forwarded to the Commission for review before submittal to DES. Len noticed that the paperwork was filled out incorrectly- the new construction will be within the prescribed set back from the lake. Dave McAlister will have the requestor re-do the paperwork prior to submitting to DES.
- There is a presentation next Thursday, November 7, in Dorchester about the Emerald Ash Borer.

Motion to adjourn made by Aaron, seconded by Bill

Next meeting to be held on December 2, 2013 at the Senior Center.

Canaan Conservation Commission

December 2, 2013

Attendees: Bill Chabot, Alice Schori, Elizabeth Chabot, Dave McAlister, Noel Everts, Hilary Rogers, Aaron Allen

Town Forest- Easement

- Mike Samson is assisting the Commission with the language for the Warrant Article. He participated in tonight's meeting, and provided examples of existing easements' language. He cautioned the Commission regarding the use of language that would cause future problems such as understanding intent, or inflexible use of the land. The commission agreed that the intent of the easement was to ensure the land remains undeveloped, but not to restrict its use unreasonably, and will specify that the Canaan residents have the vote to authorize certain activities.

McKee Property- Upper Valley Aeromodelers

- Robert McDonald joined us for a quick review of the portion of the McKee property easement that the Model Plane group uses. They are aware that the property is protected and are careful with their use of the area. They have paid for some tree maintenance as well as land upkeep which has improved the haying. Bob recommended that some of the larger trees be cut soon before they are past their prime and start causing problems. The shed that was previously noticed has been removed- it was only there for temporary purposes with the landowner's approval.

Minutes

- The October minutes were reviewed. Dave moved that they be approved, Aaron seconded the motion, all approved
- The November minutes were reviewed. It was suggested that the comment regarding the shed on the McKee property be changed to 'was noticed' from 'was built'. Dave moved that we approve the minutes with the change, Aaron seconded, all approved.

Miscellany

- Bill and Alice attended the presentation in Dorchester about the Emerald Ash Borer. They said it was very interesting and informative.

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Aaron

Next meeting to be held on January 6, 2014 at the Senior Center.