

Canaan Conservation Commission

February 12, 2018

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

Minutes ~December

The minutes were reviewed

Alice moved that they be accepted as presented, Dave seconded. The motion passed.

Bird in Hand

- The entire property walk was completed in December.

Rail Trail camping in Canaan

- After some investigation, Dave learned that the initial spot in Canaan where he thought a small campground could be located wouldn't work. However the town owns a small piece of land that could work. More info to come.

Nature Hut & Town Forest

- We should keep in mind the students of Cardigan Mountain School for any trail work this spring. The students and staff are willing volunteers for a wide variety of work.

Conservation Commission Membership

- The Commission is still short 2 members. It is posted on the town website
- Bill's term expires in April.

Misc

- Saturday April 7 is the annual Saving Special Places conference. Please advise Bill if you want to go.
- Saturday March 3: UVLT Snowshoe in the Bear Pond Natural Area
- Sunday April 22nd: Annual Roadside Clean up. Meet at the beech by 9:00am. Gloves and bags to be provided.

Motion to adjourn made by Dave, seconded by Elizabeth

Next meeting to be held on March 5, 2018 at the Senior Center

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot

Conservation Commission Members

Full-Time:

Bill Chabot: Chair, 3 year term,
ending April 30, 2018

Elizabeth Chabot: Secretary, 3 year term,
ending April 30, 2019

Len Reitsma: 3 year term,
ending August 31, 2019

AVAILABLE: Two 3 year terms

Alternates:

Alice Schori
Noel Everts

Select board Representative

Dave McAlister

Canaan Conservation Commission

March 5, 2018

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

Minutes ~December

The minutes were reviewed

Alice moved that they be accepted as presented, Dave seconded. The motion passed.

Special Guest Presentations

Jim Frohn (UNH Cooperative Extension) is conducting a survey of towns owning property to classify what kind of usage or governance is on each parcel. He reviewed both the Town Forest and the Tansey Lot with the commission.

He also discussed walking the Town Forest with us and making some management recommendations.

We might want to consider some sustainable logging to promote better health for the forest, as well as educate the public how logging can be a critical element to forest management.

Jim and Len will schedule some time together.

Ken Milke

Ken is proposing to rebuild several bridges along a class 6 road and is looking for funding. This road is used by snowmobilers and could connect some of the hiking trails. The bridges proposed are fairly wide due to a desire to be able to bring a full sized snow groomer over them.

The commission suggested that Ken research who the stake holders are and what permissions would be needed in order to build these bridges. Once this is better understood, we would be happy to re-review his proposal.

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Misc

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- Sunday April 22nd: Annual Roadside Clean up. Meet at the beach by 9:00am. Gloves and bags to be provided.

Motion to adjourn made by Dave, seconded by Elizabeth

Next meeting to be held on April 2, 2018 at the Senior Center

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot

Conservation Commission Members

Full-Time:

Bill Chabot: Chair, 3 year term,
ending April 30, 2018

Elizabeth Chabot: Secretary, 3 year term,
ending April 30, 2019

Len Reitsma: 3 year term,
ending August 31, 2019

AVAILABLE: Two 3 year terms

Alternates:

Alice Schori
Noel Everts

Select board Representative

Dave McAlister

Canaan Conservation Commission

Minutes

April 2, 2018

Alice Schori, Len Reitsma, Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot

Special Guest: Ken Milkie

Ken returned to discuss his proposed bridge project. He would like to know if the town would grant permission to do the work as he has proposed. The Commission recommended he contact the Selectboard as this is not our decision to make.

Unknown if there is any culvert work required. Ken would appreciate input from the Commission.

The Recreational Trails program offers funding grants for publically used trails in New Hampshire. On May 14 & 15, three workshops will be held. The program on the 14th is in Lancaster NH and the two sessions on the 15th are in Concord. Ken welcomes anyone to come with him.

Applications are due June 22nd.

Ken is also interested in other groups who could provide endorsements for this project. He will contact several groups including the Upper Valley Trails Alliance and the Canaan Rec Program and the CCC in Enfield as the trail ends in Enfield. The Mascoma Audubon Chapter is another group he will contact.

March Minutes

Len moved to accept the minutes, Bill seconded, motion passed.

Annual Roadside Cleanup

Sunday April 22nd. Meet at the beach by 9am. Gloves and bags to be provided

Membership

Elizabeth Moved that Bill be elected for another 3 year term for the Conservation Commission. Len seconded, the motion passed. Bill will continue in his role as Chair.

Town Forest

Len confirmed that the trails do need to be cleared. Len to confirm if May 5th or 6th would work best. 9:30am start time.

Misc

Len is scheduled to walk the Town Forest with Jim Frohn on Saturday April 7th at 10am

Canaan Conservation Commission

Minutes

May 7, 2018

Alice Schori, Len Reitsma, Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Dave McAllister

April Minutes

Len moved to accept the minutes, Bill seconded, motion passed.

Annual Roadside Cleanup

Roadside cleanup went well. Someone commented that next year, we should ask someone who may not be able to pick up trash, such as someone with small children, to volunteer to sign folks up at the beach. Also, this year's cleanup coincided with spring break which likely affected turn-out and early arrival at the beach.

Thanks to the Road Crew for picking up the filled bags!!

Membership

Elizabeth Moved that Bill be elected for another 3 year term for the Conservation Commission. Len seconded, the motion passed. Bill will continue in his role as Chair.

Town Forest

Is our trail map on the website?

Logging discussion: A possible landing site could be on the east side, north of the kiosk

The West site has more available trees to log. The existing drive to the hut would provide good access with minimal clearing required.

Constraint: The drive is located on a 55MPH curve on route 4. Len will consult DOT.

The cut itself would be very light- and 15-20 acres max. The purpose is educational, not money making

Other thoughts: Perhaps use horses for the work instead of heavy equipment?

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Bill

Next meeting to be held on June 4, 2018
Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot

Conservation Commission Members:

Full-Time:

Bill Chabot: Chair, 3 year term,
ending April 30, 2018

Elizabeth Chabot: Secretary, 3 year term,
ending
April 30, 2019

Len Reitsma: 3 year term,
ending August 31, 2019

AVAILABLE: Two 3 year terms

Alternates:

Alice Schori
Noel Everts

Select board Representative

Dave McAlister

Canaan Conservation Commission

Minutes

June 5, 2018

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

May Minutes

- Correction: Add Noel to the May Attendees. Also, the curve on route 4 is 50 MPH, not 55.
- Len moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Alice seconded, motion passed

Town Forest

- The trail map is on the website.
- The green and white trails need re-marking
- The trail by the road required weed-whacking
- Work day scheduled for June 16, 9-11am

- Len led school tours for two days in May. Approximately 250 kids from K-3 participated. They walked the wetlands and observed plants and didn't fall into the water! Bird netting was a highlight.
- The Wellborn funding from 3 years ago is still paying for the bussing of the students

August event

We're still contemplating an event in August. We need some ideas- maybe join with UVLT, MWCC? Possibly August 9. Len to ask Don Lambert to reserve the meetinghouse.

The Kate Brooks Award for Local Conservation

The CCC would like to recognize Kate's significant contribution to conservation. Planting a tree dedicated to her is a suggestion. More discussion to come with additional conversations with the select board and the Friends of Canaan as needed.

Upcoming events

- June 17: MWCC walk about
- July 15: Possible walk about on the Chabot 50 acres

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Bill.

Conservation Commission Members

Bill Chabot: Chair, 3 year term ending April 30, 2021

Len Reitsma: 3 year term ending August 31, 2019

Elizabeth Chabot: Secretary, 3 year term ending April 30, 2019

Alternates:

Alice Schori

Noel Everts

Selectboard Representative:

Dave McAlister

Canaan Conservation Commission

Minutes

August 6, 2018

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

June Minutes

- Dave moved that the June minutes be accepted as presented, Bill seconded, motion passed.
- Note: There was no meeting in July

Town Forest

- The green and white trails have been remarked
- The trail by the road needs to be weed-wacked before the Walk-about on the 26th

August event

The August MWCC Walk-about is scheduled to be in the Canaan Town forest. It is August 26th from 10 'til noon.

The Kate Brooks Award for local Conservation

Dave had some terrific suggestions. There have been previous conversations about having a live Christmas tree in town. Perhaps we should consider selecting an evergreen that the town could enjoy year 'round. Dave mentioned planting it on the green. Elizabeth will contact Longacres for some options and will check out the green.

Upcoming events

- August 15- Bird and Garden club is hosting a talk about moose
- August 26- MWCC walk about in the Town Forest

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Bill.

Commission Members

Bill Chabot: Chair,
3 year term ending
April 30, 2021

Len Reitsma:
3 year term ending
August 31, 2019

Elizabeth Chabot:
Secretary,
3 year term ending
April 30, 2019

Two open seats

Alternates:

Alice Schori

Noel Everts

Selectboard Representative:

Dave McAlister

Canaan Conservation Commission

Minutes

November 5, 2018

Attendees: Alice Schori, Len Reitsma, Bill Chabot, Elizabeth Chabot, Noel Everts

October Minutes

- Len moved that the October minutes be accepted as presented, Bill seconded, motion passed.

The Kate Brooks Award for local Conservation

Elizabeth called Longacres. They recommended a Spruce or Fir. Pricing for a 6ft tree would be between \$200 and \$300. Timing would be April.

A future question would be what type of tree would tolerate salt exposure since it will be planted so close to the road.

It was recommended that we contact Nancy Loomis with the Bird and Garden Club regarding the plaque. They might have an interest in participating. Bill said he'd start by contacting Sharon.

Misc

- The state made Chey Insulation fix the wetland they had filled on the corner of route 4 and Switch
- Alice attended a Downpour seminar with Soak NH which discussed the advantages of swales and other methods meant to help manage the large rains we've been experiencing. The speaker was quite engaging and Alice is wondering if perhaps she could present locally

Motion to adjourn made by Elizabeth, seconded by Len

Next Meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2018

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Chabot

Commission Members

Bill Chabot: Chair,
3 year term ending
April 30, 2021

Len Reitsma:
3 year term ending
August 31, 2019

Elizabeth Chabot:
Secretary,
3 year term ending
April 30, 2019

Two open seats

Alternates:

Alice Schori

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