


Town of East Kingston Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting January 9, 2023

APPROVED
2-13-23


The CC meeting was Called to Order at 5:15pm.

Members Present: Vicki Brown, Gordon Powers, Dennis Quintal

Members participating by phone: Julie Ostopchuk

Member absent: Adam Barss

Minutes from December 12, 2022. Vicki made a motion to approve; Gordon seconded. PUNA (Passed unanimously).

Correspondence:

1. 12-14-22 email from Jeremy Lougee about Chris Rider property
2. 12-16-22 email from UNH Extension's Emma Tutein & NHFG Lynn Vaccaro that East Kingston will receive Coastal Conservation Plan assistance, based on our November application. We are having a brief pre-meeting on Jan. 20.
3. 12-22-22 email from Brian Hart, SELT's Executive Director, with letter of SELT's "Support for Conservation Commission's Bond Warrant at 2023 Town Meeting"
4. 12-30-22 quote for postcard mailing from NH Print & Mail Services (Concord, NH) - \$1,010.31
5. 1-3-23 quote for postcard mailing from Quality Mailing House (Claremont, NH) - \$626.59 - \$764.49. Difference of \$137.90 represents nonprofit vs. standard postage rate.
6. 1-3-23 Planning Board notice of Cammett/Goodrich/HML Trust lot line adjustment hearing Jan. 19 (76 & 70 Haverhill Rd.)
7. 12-27-22 American Tree Farm System copy of Standards.
8. 12-27-22 RCCD Stewardship Reports for Clark, Marcella, Poelaert, Smith Conservation Easements and the Railroad Lot. Each noted that they are in compliance with all Deed Restrictions.
9. 1-3-23 RCCD Stewardship Reports for Fernald, Kemp Conservation Easements and the Welch and Parsonage Lots. Each noted that they are in compliance with all Deed Restrictions.
10. 1-5-23 quote for postcard mailing from Gannett | LocalIQ for \$744.26 (nonprofit) or \$859.70 (standard postage rate).
11. 1-7-23 email that the Powwow Pond Council has been awarded a NH DES Milfoil Grant up to \$3,900. Maximum milfoil spending including the grant will be \$7,800 for 5 days of DASH diver milfoil harvesting.
12. 1-9-23 email from Julie Labranche re: the 1/19/23 EK Planning Board meeting related to warrant article & SELT support
13. 1-9-23 email from Leah Hart stating that The Forest Society (SPNHF) no longer sends out letters to its members in support of town conservation projects, but would like to collaborate with EKCC on conservation initiatives.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Conservation 2023 Budget. Dennis met with BOS Nov. 28 and provided notice of increasing budget from \$1,000 to \$3,000.
2. EKCC Town Report. Dennis will draft for our review.
3. End of year monies. A request email was sent to Grace to deposit remaining funds into the Conservation Fund per RSA.
4. Barry Conservation Camp 2023. No calls yet. Deadline January 10, 2023.
5. Open Space Bond Warrant. Public Hearing 1-16-23 at the Pound School at 5:30pm.
 - a. Timeline/schedule. We discussed articles and letters to the editor in Carriage Towne News, a 2/27 postcard mailing to EK residents, the town's digital billboard from March 4-14, and signage for Town Meeting 3/14.
 - b. Postage options. To save ~\$140 in mailing costs, Gordon will apply for nonprofit status using PS Form 3624.
 - c. Bids for postal mailing. Dennis made a motion to select Quality Mailing House as the vendor for our February postcard mailing; Gordon seconded. PUNA.

6. Carter property at 68 South Road. No news. Scheduled Select Board Public Hearing was cancelled.
7. Bank Restoration. Dennis contacted three contractors who are willing to bid.
8. Conservation Priorities List. Updates tabled, pending open space bond warrant and technical assistance related to NH Coastal Conservation Plan.
9. Monahan Farm plaque. Tabled for now.
10. Pollinator Pathways NH. Members of the community, including East Kingston residents, are submitting pollinator photos that are becoming cover photos on Facebook. facebook.com/pollinatorpathwaysnh
11. EK Edition topic. SELT Supports Open Space Bond in East Kingston, drafted by Vicki, for 2-1-22 publication.
12. Invasives Removal at town Railroad Lot property. Both proposals were signed and returned to RCCD for work in 2023.
13. EKCC brick donations. By year end (Dec. 31, 2022), total donations equal \$2,103.20, netting us \$1,203.20. Residents can donate via at <https://4everbricks.com/donors/ekcc/>.

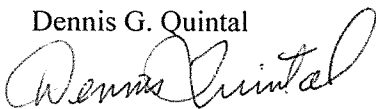
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Assistance with NH Coastal Conservation Plan. Brief pre-meeting scheduled for Friday 1/20 with UNH's Emma Tutein and NHFG's Lynn Vaccaro to discuss our timeframe and needs to incorporate the Coastal Conservation Plan into our conservation planning and prioritization.
2. Right to know laws. Vicki attended an NHACD/NHACC webinar about NH's right-to-know laws on Dec. 7, 2022, featuring Stephen Buckley of NHMC. Highlights:
 - a. Meeting minutes must be available in draft form within 5 business days. A motion was made by Vicki, seconded by Gordon, that draft minutes be emailed to members and the town administrator within 5 days of each EKCC meeting. PUNA (passed unanimously).
 - b. Meeting minutes must include the name of the person who made a motion and who seconded the motion. Vicki made a motion, seconded by Gordon, to include this information in all future EKCC meeting minutes. PUNA
 - c. Discussions and decisions by town board members, including conservation commission members, are prohibited over email, as it does not allow for public access; however, documents for review (minutes, agendas, etc) are permitted by email.

Next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday Feb. 13, 2023.

Respectfully submitted;

Dennis G. Quintal



Time Adjourned: 6:27pm