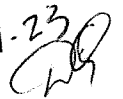


Town of East Kingston Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting August 14, 2023

APPROVED
9-11-23


The CC meeting was Called to Order at 5:02pm.

Members Present: Adam Barss, Vicki Brown, Julie Ostopchuk, Gordon Powers, Brooke Petrucelli, Dennis Quintal

Guests: Jeremy Lougee, SELT (departed at 5:45pm), Sally & Dennis Hamel, Keith Reynolds

Minutes from July 10, 2023. Gordon made a motion to approve; Adam seconded. 5-0-1 (approve, deny, abstain).

Correspondence:

1. 6-28-23 invoice from Stark & Webster for Rider property appraisal. Vicki made a motion to pay \$975 from our Conservation Fund; Gordon seconded. PUNA (Passed unanimously).
2. 7-18-23 email from RCCD's Tracy Degnan re: Railroad lot invasives removal
3. 7-18-23 email from Hampton CC's chair asking if our town would support legislation in NH that would require flood disclosures on all property-for-sale listings, in the interest in making sure they have informed purchasers (currently being investigated by Hampton's Coastal Hazards Adaptation Team (CHAT)? If not, what are the town's concerns about such legislation.
4. 7-19-23 reminder about survey response for Coastal Watershed Land Stewardship (Vicki completed).
5. 7-19-23 response from Emma Tutein re: water supply potential factor for land conservation prioritization. She said many towns use the Stratified Drift Aquifer (also called Aquifer Transmissivity) in GRANIT.
6. 7-20-23 Rider appraisal and invoice from SELT's Jeremy Lougee
7. 7-18-23 NHPDIP Statement for month ending 6-30-23 balance is \$2,172.23 interest was \$9.11.
8. 7-24-23 Notice from Tree Farm Program of 2023 Field Day Sept. 16th.
9. 7-25-23 NHFG's Lynn Vaccaro said she'll join us on 9-11 to discuss EK Water Supply Potential
10. 7-31-23 RCCD email about timing for Railroad Lot invasives removal
11. 7-31-23 email from Jeremy Lougee about Rider conservation project & asking to join 8-14 EKCC meeting.
12. 8-1-23 email from Brenda Daley asking about status of her June 2023 check and donation for the Powwow Bank brick fundraiser. (Julie followed up)
13. 8-3-23 reminder from Beth Fraser at American Farmland Trust (AFT) about Soil Health Stewards grant.
14. 8-4-23 Copy of Letter from NHDES to owner at 9 Bowley regarding possible wetland violation.
15. 8-4-23 Copy of Letter from NHDES to owner at 8 Freeman Street determined no violations occurred.
16. 8-4-23 Copy of Letter from NHDES to owner at 6 Freeman Street determined no violations at 8 Freeman.
17. 8-7-23 request from NHACC for our new "land conservation project evaluation" (declined, not ready to share yet)
18. 8-8-23 NHPDIP statement for month ending 7-31-23 balance is \$2,181.81 interest was \$9.58.
19. 8-8-23 Emma Tutein said she'll join the 9-11 EKCC meeting to discuss EK water supply potential
20. 8-10-23 RPC August Newsletter – Notice of the 2023 Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday October 21 at the Exeter Public Works Garage Newfields Road.
21. 8-14-23 Email from Grace Ruelle asking for today's agenda

ACTION ITEMS from 7-10-23:

1. (From 5-8-23) Julie – contact EKES principal about mural project. Not started.
2. (From 5-8-23) Julie – ask the Railroad for answers to questions posed by the EK Select Board about a proposed safety fence at the town Railroad parcel. Not started
3. Gordon – promote Paddle the Powwow program; draft article for EK Edition & CTN. Complete.
4. Brooke – tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list (ongoing).
5. Vicki – set up and staff table at EK Summer Market on Sunday July 16, 10am-2pm. Cancelled.
6. Gordon - set up and staff table at EK Summer Market on Sunday August 27, 10am-2pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Rider conservation project. Jeremy gave us a status update. The grant application from the NHDES's Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund is due Sept. 29. The EKCC supports the purchase of the land for a conservation easement, provided the boundary marker is replaced and following a site visit. Jeremy will follow up accordingly and also schedule a Public Hearing concurrent with an EK Select Board meeting.
2. 9 Bowley Road / New England Outdoor Materials. Midnight Leasing LLC. Dennis shared 19 comments about the Site Plan from a town engineer POV. We discussed additional concerns, including light industrial zoning, AOT (Alteration of Terrain), dyes and chemicals use, unapproved removal of vegetation and leveling within 250' of the Powwow River, debris and trash, potential water pollution, etc.
3. Carter property at 68 South Road. Change to approved lot lines Approved at last Planning Board Meeting.
4. Conservation Properties Prioritization. Tabled.
 - a. Water Supply Potential factor. We'll ask Emma to join us in October instead of September.
 - b. Cultural/historical/scenic factor.
5. Paddle the Powwow Program. We have 7 registrations to date. We'll continue to promote.
6. Safety fence at RR Parcel. Julie will get a list of the questions about this from the Select Board and discuss with Railroad personnel.
7. Mural project at town's RR parcel. Tabled.
8. RR Lot invasives removal by RCCD. We will ask RCCD about status.
9. EK Summer Markets on August 27 (Gordon) and September 17 (Vicki).
10. Bank Restoration and Town Warrant Article 16. Discussion & RFP. Tabled.
11. EKCC brick fundraising. \$1,347.30 in profits due to an additional \$200 in donations.
12. Pollinator Pathways NH. Garden Tour in Exeter on Sun, Sept. 10 at 1:00pm. Register on naturegroupie.org.
11. EK Edition topic(s). Emerald Ash Borer Fund update for Sept. 1 issue.
12. EKCC News. East Kingston: Paddle the Powwow Program article in Carriage Towne News 7-27-23 (also on front page) and online/print again 8-3-23
13. Web updates at eknh.org/conservation-commission

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Fund Update. Members approved the draft, which will be posted on the website.
2. UNH Extension is hosting the Eastern Old-Growth Forest Conference on Sept. 21-23 in Moultonborough.
3. Old Town Hall renovation. Discussed in 7-20-23 East Kingston Planning Board (EKPB) meeting.
4. Dan Bodwell addressed the 7-20-23 EKPb, shared the history of his property and spoke of alternative uses -- including a manure tank, solar farm, or hog farm -- for his property of 68 acres.

Next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 11, 2023.

ACTION ITEMS:

Time Adjourned: 7:11 pm

1. (from 5-8-23) Julie -- contact EKES principal about mural project
2. (from 5-8-23) Julie -- ask the Railroad for answers to questions posed by the EK Select Board about a proposed safety fence at the town Railroad parcel.
3. Gordon - set up and staff table at EK Summer Market on Sunday August 27, 10am-2pm
4. Vicki -- set up and staff table at EK Summer Market Sunday Sept. 17, 10am-2pm
5. Brooke -- tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list (ongoing)
6. All -- attend a site visit of the Rider property and respective public hearing, if possible

Respectfully submitted;

Dennis G. Quintal

