

Town of East Kingston Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting September 11, 2023

APPROVED
10-9-23
DQ

The CC meeting was Called to Order at 5:01pm.

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

Guests: Jeremy Lougee, SELT (departed at 5:30pm)

Minutes from August 14, 2023. Adam made a motion to approve; Brooke seconded. 5-0-1 (approve, deny, abstain due to absence from previous meeting).

Correspondence:

1. 8-16-23 email from RCCD's Tracy Degnan RCCD confirming low-volume foliar applications to remove invasives were completed on 8/1 and missed the rain. They plan to return in mid-late September to target and cut the vines, which were difficult to reach due to the height of the poison ivy.
2. 8-15-23 – Budget Status as of 7-31-23.
3. 8-16-23 NHACC – August eNews.
4. 8-25-23 Summer Issue of the Granite State Tree Farmer.
5. 9-6-23 NHACC – Fall Lunch & Learn Zoom Series, September Programs.
6. 9-7-23 UNHCE's Emma Tutein & NHFG's Lynn Vaccaro will join us at the November 9 EKCC meeting to discuss the water supply potential factor for land conservation prioritization.
7. 9-11-23 NH PDIP statement shows addition of \$10.04. Total balance of 2,191.85.
8. Citizens Bank statement for 8-31-23. \$43,234.52 balance. Interest of \$0.37. Deposit of \$200 for brick fundraiser.
9. RCCD easement report for Dan Bodwell on North Rd. No areas of concern
10. RCCD easement report for Harold & Elizabeth Bodwell, Stumpfield Rd. No areas of concern.
11. RCCD easement report of Nutt property on North Rd. No areas of concern.

ACTION ITEMS from 8-14-23:

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 Sunday Aug. 27, 10am-2pm (DONE)
4. Vicki – ask Coastal Conservation Technical Assistance team to join us next month (DONE)
5. Vicki – set up and staff table at EK Summer Market Sunday Sept. 17, 10am-2pm (Cancelled due to illness)
6. Brooke – tackle the “Scenic/cultural/historical” factor in the Conservation Priorities list (ongoing)
7. All – attend a site visit of the Rider property and respective public hearing, if possible

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Rider conservation project. Members were polled in an around-the-table vote and unanimously supported the Rider conservation easement project. Jeremy provided an update and invited CC members to a site walk on Tues 9/12 at 5:30pm. Dennis will determine the town's next Select Board meeting date and ask for a Public Hearing on that date on this topic (perhaps Monday Sept. 25?)
2. Carter property at 68 South Road. No update.
3. 9 Bowley Road / New England Outdoor Materials. Midnight Leasing LLC. On the EK Planning Board agenda for Thursday Sept. 21, 2023.
4. Conservation Properties Prioritization.
 - i. Water Supply Potential factor. Stratified drift aquifer + groundwater protection + pollution attenuation.
 - ii. Cultural/historical/scenic factor.
5. Paddle the Powwow Program debrief. The program made the front page of the Carriage Towne News.

6. Safety fence at RR Parcel. Julie contacted Maurice O'Connell at CSX (the railroad) and is awaiting response.
7. Mural project at town's RR parcel. Julie contacted Maurice O'Connell at CSX and is waiting for a response.
8. RR Lot invasives removal by RCCD. Completed on 8/1 with second treatment in mid-late September.
9. EK Summer Market on September 17. No members are available to staff the table, to cover for Vicki's illness.
10. Bank Restoration and Town Warrant Article 16. We discussed changing the embankment design for both aesthetics and economic reasons. Julie will seek photos and then Dennis will discuss with contractors and revise the RFP. Goal is for this to be a warrant article in March 2024.
11. EKCC brick fundraising. Received \$200 donation in past month.
12. Pollinator Pathways NH. No update.
11. EK Edition topic(s). Gordon drafted a Paddle the Powwow follow-up with photo for Sept. 1. Vicki will draft & submit a photo and blurb about Dennis' James Hayden Conservation Award from the RCCD.
12. EKCC in the News. Paddle on the Powwow online 9-2-23 and in print (on first page of CTN 9-7-23)
13. Web updates at eknh.org/conservation-commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NHACC annual conference Nov. 4. at Pembroke Academy. <https://www.nhacc.org/annualmeeting>
2. Member Adam Barss shared his new email address with EKCC.

Next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 9, 2023.

ACTION ITEMS:

Time Adjourned: 6:33pm

1. All -- attend a site visit of the Rider property on Tues 9/12 at 5:30pm, if available
2. All -- attend Rider Property public hearing, if possible (?Monday Sept. 25?)
3. Dennis -- contact Select Board to schedule a Public Hearing about Rider property (?Monday Sept. 25?) and inform Jeremy & members
4. Vicki -- draft & submit article & photo about Dennis' James Hayden Award for EK Edition & CTN
5. Julie -- secure photos of potential new embankment approach and share with Dennis & EKCC
6. Dennis -- rework existing Powwow Bank RFP to incorporate discussed embankment design changes and ready it for review/bidders
7. (from 5-8-23) Julie -- contact EKES principal & CSX Railroad about mural project
8. (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.
9. Brooke -- tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list (ongoing)
10. Vicki - work with Coastal Conservation team on data for water supply potential factor for land conservation prioritization.

Respectfully submitted;

Dennis G. Quintal

