

Members Present: Chairman Carsten Springer, Allan Hess, Robert (Bobby) Loree, Patty Shogren (Alternate member)

Absent Excused: David Caillouette

The Meeting was called to order @ 7:35 PM and was televised.

Pledge of Allegiance: was recited by those present.

A Moment of Silence was observed for the students, families and first responders affected by the Community College incident in Oregon.

A motion was made by Bobby and seconded by Carsten to appoint Patty Shogren a voting member for the evening to assure a quorum. Carsten, Allan and Bobby voted in the affirmative with Patty abstaining.

Review Minutes:

The approval of the September 17, 2015 minutes was tabled due to a lack of voting members who were present at that meeting.

Old Business:

Back Road Conservation Area: Carsten reminded the members of the discussion from the last meeting concerning the need for signs. Some ideas brought forth by Con Com members include:

1. Leave it as you found it
2. No digging
3. Bring it in, take it out

Carsten mention that there is a multitude of activities there that people need to be aware of such as Live Stock, Agriculture and Apiaries. He would like the members to think about ideas for signs related to this for the next meeting. Carsten discussed the placement of a gate to prevent vehicles from driving on the hay which prevented the haying of the field in the past. The road agent has some telephone poles and a livestock gate could be purchased.

(Jason joined the meeting at 7:45 PM)

Allan mentioned the need for off street parking. The placement of signs indicating that “vehicles were prohibited beyond this point” may eliminate the need for a gate. The consensus was that a parking area was more welcoming for the residents. Telephone poles with chains would boarder the parking area but allow the access of heavy equipment when needed to maintain and hay the field. Also, one section of the property has been designated for community gardening. Some thoughts were brought forth as to where to place the parking area. Carsten suggested a bush hog to clear the area where a parking site might be feasible. Carsten asked if he should contact road agent for about 6 telephone poles. If none available, Allan offered to make some phone calls to get some. Some type of gravel base will be needed for the parking area.

Reimbursing Volunteers for the Use of Their Expensive Equipment: Carsten and Bobby walked the property a few weeks ago. Carsten had been wrestling with finding a solution of how to reimburse volunteers who bring expensive heavy equipment and work hours to clean up the property. He felt Bobby has come up with a good solution. Obtain rental fee pricing from two or three rental companies per year and **reimburse the volunteers a rate of 30% of these fees.** Expenses can occur for the volunteers. For example, Allan brought an excavator up there and blew a hydraulic and radiator line at his expense. Chipper blades get dull after use, need to be sharpened and this is expensive. **Some members thought 50% was more appropriate.** Other residents may be willing to bring their equipment to help. Contracting the work out would be much more expensive. Pricing will need to be obtained from a couple of other places.

Correspondence:

Carsten presented to the members and for the record a copy of the email he sent to Major Consentino requesting a work crew to help clean out the gravel pit area and would like it attached to the minutes. He is waiting for a reply.

Patty informed the group that Joe Crawford a member of the Historic Preservation Trust of Treasure Hunters, asked for permission to go on the conservation land. He leaves the land as he finds it. Patty spoke to him in person and told him if anything is found it would belong to the town. He found a “dandy” button and 4 or 5 sections of an oxen shoe. She explained that Dandy buttons were worn by men who wanted to appear to have more than they did. It is where the Yankee Doodle Dandy expression came from. She gave it to Carol Baird for the Heritage Commission. It will be placed in the Stage Coach stop.

Saturday October 17th there are two site walks scheduled, 9 AM at Long Pond and 10:30 at Cotton Farm.

Carsten read the first paragraph from a five-page letter from a group of concerned Conservation Commissions from Southern NH against the proposed NE Energy gas pipeline to Conservation Commissions. Carsten shared it with the members for their individual consideration. This was tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.

Review Minutes: With Jason now present, the Minutes of the September 17’ 2015 meeting were reviewed and amended. A motion was made by Jason, seconded by Bobby to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed with Allan and Patty abstaining.

Patty gave the members a packet with Con Com budget information for review at an upcoming meeting. The Con Com is on the budget committee schedule the end of Oct. Mary Ann was asked to project the cost of an average week of meeting time and minutes preparation for the budget and bring it to the next meeting.

At 8:10 PM, Patty made a motion, seconded by Allan, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (d), *Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.*

Roll call vote: Carsten – yes, Jason – yes, Allan – yes, Bobby – yes, Patty – yes; the motion passed.

MINUTES PREPARED BY MARY ANN DISTEFANO

Approved on October 15, 2015, by majority of the Commission