



Derry Conservation Commission
14 Manning St.
Derry, NH 03038

Minutes of Public Meeting July 8, 2013

On July 8, 2013 at 7:30 pm, the Derry Conservation Commission met in the 3rd floor meeting room of the Derry Municipal Center.

The following members were present: Jim Arruda, Paul Dionne, Paul Doolittle, Beverly Ferrante, Margaret Ives, Chair, Richard Tripp and Dennis Wiley. Ric Buzzanga, James Degnan, Peg Kinsella and Marianne Page were absent.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The Minutes of April 29th had not yet been approved due to the lack of a quorum. Richard Tripp, who was present at the April 29th meeting, sat for Jim Arruda in order to produce a quorum to approve these minutes. Richard Tripp made a motion to accept the minutes of April 29, 2013. Paul Dionne seconded the motion. All others were in favor. The motion carried. After approval of the minutes, Richard went back to being seated as alternate. Jim Arruda is now back seated for the rest of the meeting.

Paul Dionne made a motion to accept the minutes of June 10, 2013. Jim Arruda seconded the motion. All others were in favor. The motion carried. Beverly Ferrante abstained.

Chair's Report, Correspondence and Bills:

The DES Watershed Grant deadline for applications is August 9, 2013. Applicants must present a pre-proposal for projects for possible funding. DCC does not have any pre-proposals at this time.

South East Land Trust held a meeting at the Derry Public Library. SELT would like DCC to renew its membership in the trust. SELT now has 9000 acres of protected land in Rockingham County.

Paul Dionne made a motion to pay \$200.00 from the Administrative Account to renew DCC membership. Beverly Ferrante and Paul Doolittle seconded the motion. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

A bill for \$650.00 from Rockingham County Conservation District for the invasives workshop day at Shepard is due by August 1, 2013. There was no grant money available for the project this year. The cost included re-doing the site, organizing and managing the workshop, weed wrenches, grass mix etc.

Paul Dionne made a motion to pay \$650.00 to be taken from the Conservation Land Management Fund, to pay RCCD. Paul Doolittle seconded the motion. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

Dennis Wiley will look into the cost of purchasing weed wrenches which could be used by DCC and loaned out.

The field at Shepard will be getting mowed by the end of July most likely by Arthur Caras. Thanks were given in advance to Arthur Caras for mowing.

Chair gave an update on the past payment of the 4-H contribution. The total contribution was supposed to be for \$150.00. The first check received for the contribution was for \$50.00. The error has been corrected. Another check for \$100.00 will be sent out making the total 4-H contribution of \$150.00 paid in full. The error was not the part of the Town of Derry Finance Dept.

Chair brought up discussion on increasing the hourly rate of Recoding Clerk, Ruth Robinson. Ruth started as recoding clerk for the Conservation Commission in September 2011 at \$12.00 an hour. She has not had a raise.

Paul Dionne made a motion to increase the hourly rate of Ruth Robinson, Recording Clerk by (\$1.00 an hour) making the hourly rate \$13.00 an hour, to be taken from the Administrative Account. There was no second on the motion. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Dennis Wiley, Beverly Ferrante and Paul Doolittle to increase the hourly rate for Recording Clerk, Ruth Robinson from \$12.00 an hour to \$14.00 an hour, to be taken from the Administrative Account. Paul Dionne seconded the motion. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

Summer intern:

This year's summer intern is Dan Cox who was present at the meeting. He has a major in **Forestry** from Paul Smith College. He was the intern for the Beaver lake Improvement Association. Dan has already started working. He has explored Cole Marsh. He reported overgrowth and erosion out there and he brought pictures that he took of Cole Marsh to the meeting.

Some of the areas that need Dan's help are:

- Restoration of bridges at Cole Marsh
- Clearing of the Gulf Rd. Storm Trail
- Trails at Broadview and at the town forest are overgrown and need attention
- Dennis Wiley needs assistance from Dan with the Eagle Scout Project, Troop #405 at the Low Property.

- The Scout's rules call for two adults to be in attendance when the scouts are out at the area working. Dan was a former member of Troop #405. He would be the second adult present.

Since Dan is no longer a student, he will be given an hourly rate of pay instead of a stipend.

Paul Dionne made a motion to pay Dan Cox \$10.00 an hour for 50 hours of work for the summer period, to be taken from the Administrative Account. Beverly Ferrante seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Paul Doolittle suggested that Dan log his hours.

Weber – Weber is 201 plus acres. A timber harvest has not been done there since the late 1980's. Charlie Moreno has given his proposal for a Forestry Management Plan at Weber.

Charlie's plan consists of:

- *Research* – maps and aerial photos
- *Field work* – a thorough walk of the property, listing its potentials, mapping vernal pools
- *Report* - maps, logistics, recommendations for public use, invasive plant control, water resource protection, forest types, Wildlife habitat, quality of water and the health of the forest.

The cost of Charlie Moreno's plan is \$4,200.00. He would do a power point presentation of the plan for an additional cost. A timber harvest could possibly pay for a portion of the plan. After discussion, a decision was made by the Conservation Commission to have Charlie Moreno come to the next Conservation meeting August 8, 2013 for discussion of the plan.

Low Property - Eagle Scout Project update- Eagle Scout, Tyler Pascucci is working on the project with the other scouts. The scouts are mapping out and roughing in hiking trails and identifying items and points of interest. Beavers have eliminated a portion of one of the trails and caused some flooding. Two looped trails have been identified, flagged and connected together. Lots of wildlife has been spotted and moose tracks have been seen.

Broadview – The gardens look great at this time and they are growing rapidly. Dennis Wily weed wacked the paths. A future bill will be coming from the feed store for past wildlife management done there.

Land Stewards- Richard Tripp is the correspondent for the land stewards. He is generating a visitation report for the land stewards to use when they need to report any findings on their walks.

J & F Farms walk – July 20, 2013 at 8:00 am, meet at the farm stand. The tour of J& F Farms is given by Farmer Phil Ferdinando. He will be using a tractor pulled wagon to carry some of the attendees. He will be explaining good farming principles, irrigation and the planting of crops.

Other Business:

Japanese Knotweed -Jim Arruda is looking for feedback from the commission members as to what they would like to see on a town map. Jim suggests that the map show as many streets as possible to be able to locate areas of Japanese Knotweed infestation, highlight conservation property and major bodies of water.

The commission's suggestions were: highlighting town owned property on the map. (Hood Park and the transfer station have Japanese Knotweed), hanging posters in the libraries, allocating money to print more brochures to hand out at Derryfest, pictures of knotweed in newspapers and bringing in a specimen of the knotweed to one of the DCC meetings to show the viewing public. Follow up with the Parks Dept. and Mike Fowler. Jim Arruda discussed suggested flagging areas of infestation of the knotweed in town so that town workers would be aware when cutting and mowing. By not cutting the knotweed, it creates safety issues on town roads and state roads. After discussion the Commission decided to hold a workshop on Japanese Knotweed at their next meeting August 12, 2013.

Go Green:

Go Green is getting involved in invasive species. They will be doing a live spot on the TV, once a month. The first specie featured will be Mustard Garlic. They will also be distributing some invasive species literature to garden centers and at go Green functions.

Adjournment:

Paul Dionne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis Wiley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Clerk/Ruth Robinson