



TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting of August 6, 2009

Note: These minutes are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Commission.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by John Trachy.

Members present were: John Tracy, Cynthia Bruss, Daphne Klein, Todd Richardson, Bob Ruel. Absent: Jane Seekamp, Ken Jacques. Also present was Dave Tucker, Selectman Representative.

The minutes of 7/2/09 were approved unanimously.

Wetlands: Pat Woolson of the Grantham CC has contacted DES regarding erosion issues at Palazzi Pond. John noted that this case was brought to the DES by Springfield CC 4 years ago and is now at the Attorney General's office for enforcement.

Outreach: CC members felt that having a booth at Old Home Day worked well, although apparently some people in town had expected that the CC would be doing more at the Town Hall due to incorrect information that was printed in at least two places. Cynthia is going to contact Fish and Game to see whether it will be possible to display the "Forever Locked" exhibit next year.

The Springfield Historical Society has expressed interest in having the CC make a presentation at their January meeting. Different ideas were discussed about what we might do. Cynthia will talk to the Historical Society to clarify what they are looking for.

Conservation Lands:

There was a discussion about whether the CC can help with costs incurred by individuals seeking conservation easements. Another question raised was whether donations to the Ausbon Sargent Land Trust can be encumbered in such a way as to benefit easements in Springfield. John will ask the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust to write a letter to the Springfield land owner requesting help to pay for survey costs. The letter would ask the property owner to state what he is looking for and what his long term commitment is.

Some towns in our area are putting some of their town owned lots into conservation easements with Ausbon Sargent. At this point the only town owned lots preserved through conservation easements are the Society Lot and the Royal Arch lot. Both of these easements are held by the Society for the Protection of NH Forests.



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Conservation Lands – continued:

John presented a proposed budget of \$350.63, primarily for mailing and advertising costs, for the public land conservation meeting to be held on 9/22/09. Bob made a motion, seconded by Todd to approve the expenditures proposed. The motion passed unanimously.

Joint meeting: Springfield and Grantham Conservation Commissions: Bob and John met with Pat Woolson of the Grantham CC on 8/5/09 to discuss common areas of interest in the Bog Brook Area. They encouraged the Grantham CC to focus even farther upstream in the Bog Brook watershed than they had been. John asked Pat to find out if Grantham has monitoring wells around the old landfill. The next meeting will be on 8/26.

Selectmen Reports: Dave asked about the well on the Brook lot. Brad has made and installed a cover. The depth of the well is about 6' 2". CB will bring a photo of the covered well to the selectmen's meeting on 8/10/09.

Dave brought the CC up to date on the oil leak that was going into Lake Kolelemook from a property on Sandy Beach. The Springfield Fire Department installed a containment area and DES has been monitoring the situation. It is now considered to be under control.

Correspondence and Miscellaneous: NH DOT to do culvert work at the corner of Route 114 and Philbrick Hill. It was noted that the town needs to obtain a DES permit to repair culverts in the same way that a property owner does. Bob mentioned that an annual blanket permit could be applied for.

An email was received from the Eastman Charitable Foundation stating that there will be a Conservation Symposium on 10/11/09 in Grantham. They are looking for involvement from Grantham, Springfield, and Enfield CCs. Other participants include SPNHF, ASLPT, UVLT, and TNC.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daphne Klein
Secretary