

Kensington Conservation Commission

October 13, 2020

Zoom Meeting due to Covid 19

Members Present: Sydnee Goddard, Bob Gustafson, Andrew Roberts, Joan Skewes, Pam Holland

Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.

1. The Commission reviewed the September 16th meeting minutes and approved as revised.
2. Hodges – Bridge Construction off Moulton Ridge- nothing new to add.

Bridge Construction from Sawyer Park to Hodges - Syd contacted DES who indicated a simple application would need to be filed in order to construct a foot bridge.

Forestry Update – the work has been completed. Estimated funds from the pine trees are lower than expected due to the low grade. In addition the wood chip value is also low. The anticipated income from the cutting after paying Charlie Moreno is \$6,095.00, half of which will go to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests. The language in the easement deed states that half of the income from the property to be forwarded to the Society.

Charlie Moreno will be updating the management plan, mark the locations of the cut sights. Pam expressed concern about how the cutting disturbed the trails, she is hearing complaints from citizens. Syd discussed that the cutting was for managing habitat. Commission discussed the need to communicate to citizens the reasoning for the forest management which involves periodic cutting. Commission discussed putting an article in the Community Newsletter. Robert will work on drafting said article.

No Hunting Signs - No update.

Invasive Plant Treatment- Syd is checking as to whether a section of Bittersweet has been treated.

3. Moulton Ridge Town Property – The Selectboard signed the letter of agreement. The land survey is in the process of being completed. Jeremy at SELT is working on drafting the language for the easement. The Commission will also have to think of a forest management plan.
4. Pollinator Pathways – Annual seed swap in Kingston is October 17th. Syd discussed invasive Wiggly worms.
5. Pond on Drinkwater Road –Sue Varn has hired a consultant to look at the pond. The consultant from an organization called Solitude indicated that the culvert needs to be repaired so the water flows. The consultant also recommended that the pond needs to be

treated to reduce growth of algae. There is unconsolidated organic material in the pond but there are spots in the pond that remain deep. There are no invasive species in the pond. Syd to share with the Commission the email she received regarding the pond.

6. White Property- donated land which abuts Hodges and a small parcel in the Great Meadows, the town does not have funds in their budget for the legal fees. A motion was made to expend up to \$5,000.00 from the current use change tax fund to pay for the legal expenses associated with the White donated lands. Motion passed.

7. The Conservation Commission budge was discussed.
ERLAC – Exeter River Local Advisory Commission \$100.00
SELT – South East Land Trust \$125.00
NHACC – New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission \$296.00

The Commission voted for the proposed budget for 2021 to be \$521 to cover the above costs.

8. Other business Abutter to Hodges – legal letter has been sent to abutter. Courtney discussed in the future organizing a trail race through Hodges.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.