

Kensington Conservation Commission

April 13, 2021

Zoom Meeting due to Covid 19

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

Call to Order: 7:48 p.m. due to Zoom issues.

1. Moulton Ridge Conservation Land – Syd received a call from a hunter asking whether hunting was allowed on the property. The Commission discussed concerns with allowing hunting on property given the size of the parcel, the property location, adjacent property is open for hunting, safety concerns, importance of preserving rural character. There is a new deer stand on the property, the Commission discussed the State of NH requirement that written permission to be obtained to erect a deer stand on someone else's property. The Commission tabled further discussion and proposed a town meeting to hopefully get more participation from the town to discuss allowing hunting.
2. Hodges – beaver activity – the Selectboard is investigating funding for beaver control. Funding through a grant is available if the beaver activity causes flooding. If flooding is not an issue then the town would have to fund the beaver control. The Commission discussed the need for regular funding, long term viability. Beaver activity does provide wildlife habitat.

Posting No Hunting – Joan worked with Joe Hickey to post a portion of the western boundary of Hodges. Remaining boarders need to be posted, turkey hunting starts in May.

Swallow Wort – 2021 treatment. The Commission voted to expend \$900 to be paid, split equally from the Hodges Trust and Society for Protection of NH Forests.

3. Pollinator Pathways- the seed giveaway is April 17th at the Grange with Syd and volunteers.
4. Community News – Andy has written an informative article about the Moulton Ridge Easement. The tree harvest article will be submitted to meet the May deadline.
5. SAU Property – There is a sale pending. The Commission discussed that when the ball field was proposed, if the ball field was not built then a portion of the land was to be put in a conservation easement. The Commission is asking whether the current proposed sale is taking that into consideration. Courtney to call Rob Garneau about what he remembers.

6. Conservation Next Steps –The Commission discussed properties they are interested in protecting. Syd suggested forming a subcommittee to review list, maps and criteria.
7. The Commission discussed the Felch subdivision, driveway off of Route 150. The subdivision involves a lot line adjustment, using the gravel pit access road as a driveway. The applicant has requested waiver from the tree clearing regulation, commission discussed the extent of the proposed tree cutting should be defined.
8. The Commission discussed activity across marsh from Hodges and whether there is cutting up to the wetland boundary.
9. March minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm.