

## Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes

5/16/23

Attendees: Pam Holland, Sydnee Goddard, Bob Gustafson, Cindy Heal, Skip Heal

Absent: Joan Skewes, Andy Roberts, Courtney Preneta

- Hodges mowing of pasture trail completed by Skip Heal. He offers to continue this service.
- Cindy Heal requested information concerning the beaver dam removal by Mr Loyd on his property as the Heals live near the dam. Pam directed her the Planning Board and Kensington's Code Enforcement Officer, Gino, for clarification. Pam referenced a letter that she wrote to the planning board detailing potential concerns to be addressed prior to dam removal.
- Large Groundwater Drawdown Application of Exeter (review of public meeting 2/22/23) Pam to write a letter to Select Board, etc, advising that the KCC suggests that the Town should retain the services of our Town engineer to manage the review of the data collected as the DES continues with the well drawdown monitoring. It is important that the Town of Kensington be adequately involved and monitoring this situation to be sure that the water removal by the Town of Exeter does not negatively impact the water availability to town residents as the aquifers beneath our towns are shared. Over time, the impact could possibly be significant and water resources diminished. The first step in protecting the water rights of the residents of the Town of Kensington is to establish how new large drawdown wells impact our aquifer. Without this management the Town will have a difficult time establishing any negative impacts experienced by our residents.
- A warrant article voted on earlier this year increased the wetland buffer in town from 25' to either 50' or 100' depending on the presence of particular hydric soils. The KCC has received no communication from the Planning Board concerning this revision to the code.
- Unpaid Invoice from 09/2021 for invasive species removal on Hodge's Conservation Land: Syd to manage payment investigation and approval as necessary.
- Potential Conservation opportunity: Pam to sign authorization to spend \$975 to appraise property that is potentially a good candidate for conservation in partnership with East Kingston and Exeter (with grant assistance.) The cost of appraisal is shared between the towns and the property owner.

8:45PM Meeting Adjourned