

Randolph Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes Thursday June 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Dan Koloski, Warren Davoll, Gus Howe Johnson, Dave Crosby and Lynn McNamara were present.

Minutes

May meeting minutes were accepted as read, DK moved, DC seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer reported that the May bank statements have not yet been received.

Funding Opportunities

Dave Crosby will confirm that the Farmland Conservation proposal from Upper Valley Land Trust and the Fiddlehead Festival proposal have been paid.

Funding Process

Dave reported that the town office says they now need us to submit a request to the town manager describing how any funding proposal meets the RCC goals in order to have a RCC approved expenditure passed by the select board. We discussed how this process could be streamlined and agreed improved communication would be helpful. Dave will check with the town to see if there is a standard form for this procedure or if our official approved minutes is sufficient.

Ellis Property

NRCS will review the contract with the Town of Randolph for mowing. Lynn McNamara will visit the Ellis property and check the status of the mowing.

Tree Inventory Update

Bruce Cameron attended the RCC meeting and reported that the Randolph tree inventory was completed July 2008. The data collected by students needed to be redone, which Bruce did. John and Carley Rotter inputted data into the computer and a final report has been printed. Copies have been received by Danielle Fitzco at the Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation, the Town of Randolph, Dave Crosby, and a digital copy is also available on cd. This inventory was intended to be a stepping stone to new projects. Gus emailed Julie Hinman and Lindsay Meyer at the Randolph Elementary School to see if the 2009-2010 5th and 6th grade curriculum might include updating the tree inventory or possibly tree planting. At some point we will look into a grant for trees to be planted around town and it would be possible for students to be involved if the teachers are interested.

Brochure

Dave Crosby will check with the Town of Randolph on the status of the flier describing location and description of town forest properties and activities available.

Educational Activities

Lynn will contact Julie Iffland regarding a potential group of schoolchildren willing and available to do some work on town properties this summer. This work might include tree identification or trail maintenance.

Forest Parcel Signage

Dave is meeting with David Barnard regarding an identification sign at South Pleasant Street forest. He will also check with DigSafe regarding safe locations for the sign. Dave will also look into the potential of putting up an identification sign at the junction of Greenhouse Ave & Friend Street indicating “town property” at the North Reservoir Road location.

Agenda

Dan invited ideas and suggestions for the agenda each month. Lynn suggested that next meeting we discuss the WHIP grant at the Ellis property.

Board Positions

New board positions need to be discussed and appointed. We discussed the fact that we do not currently have a full board of nine active members, have not had one for a number of years, and we would be very interested in having a full, active board. Dave will look into questions regarding the names on our list of board members, total number of positions and availability of openings, length of terms, and how people get on or off the board. There will likely be at least one opening due to inactive member or nonresident on our current list. LM moved and WD seconded a motion to wait to decide on board positions until we clear up these questions regarding board membership.

Meeting Times

We will discuss whether to change our meeting time to the 1st or 3rd Monday evening to see if a schedule change might contribute to a more active commission.

Other Business

Bruce Cameron suggested merging the Randolph Trees Around Town committee with the RCC and Forestry Committee to be in a stronger position for grant opportunities. At the moment it looks like Bruce is the only member of the Trees Around Town committee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.
Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2009