



TOWN OF BOW

Conservation Commission

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Approved as amended on June 12, 2017

Bow Conservation Commission

Meeting May 15, 2017

Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Bow Conservation Commission was held on May 15 at 7:30 PM. Chair Sandy Crystall called the meeting to order.

Members present: Sandy Crystall, Wendy Waskin, Bob Ball, and David Kirkpatrick. Kitty Lane was absent. Also present was a prospective Conservation Commission member David Eskeland of 5 Pepin Drive, and Alvina Snegach, recording secretary.

Ms. Crystall introduced and welcomed Mr. Eskeland as a prospective member who is scheduled to appear before the Board of Selectmen at the end of May to be sworn in. Mr. Eskeland is a long time Bow resident who has extensive experience working for the NH Fish and Game Department.

Unapproved minutes 04/17/2017

After the Commission reviewed the minutes and suggested edits Mr. Ball made the motion, duly seconded by Ms. Waskin, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Items for Consideration/Discussion:

Town Forester, Ron Klemarczyk – Timber harvest, management of town forests, etc.

Ms. Crystall introduced Ron Klemarczyk who gave a brief overview of how he got involved with the Town and the work he does: timber harvests, vista clearings, assisting with easement monitoring, preparing and updating the Forest Management Plan, etc. He also provided more information about the timber harvest on the "Robinson Road" lot, which still has not happened due to weather instability since February. Mr. Klemarczyk explained the process of logging bid selection and why Chuck Rose won the bid to log this lot. Discussion ensued about coexistence of various recreational trails and logging. Mr. Klemarczyk noted that some logging roads later become trails, which prohibits him from reusing them for subsequent logging operations, therefore, care must be taken while creating new trails. Ms. Crystall mentioned that the commission is currently collaborating with Bow Open Spaces and other recreational organizations in Bow in order to facilitate a collective approach to managing the Town owned land/forests/trails. Other things discussed with Mr. Klemarczyk were:

- locations of various Town forests on the map;

- purposes of timber harvests – income, clearing vistas, nature driven processes, safety hazards, wildlife habitat expansion, etc.
- various types of trees requiring different seasons for harvesting;
- wildlife habitat and timber harvests;
- presence and control of invasive insects;
- border discrepancies between private land and some Town Properties;
- conservation easement monitoring;
- updating the Forest Management Plan for the Town of Bow;
- the need to have a Natural Resources Inventory;

At the end of the discussion Ms. Crystall thanked Mr. Klemarczyk for meeting with the commission.

Turee Pond – status of various activities.

Weed Watcher workshop.

Ms. Crystall thanked Ms. Waskin for helping with the organization of the Weed Watcher workshop on May 11, 2017 at the Baker Free Library. Ms. Waskin briefly informed the members about the participants and noted that one Bow High School student (member of the Bass Fishing Club) expressed the desire to involve his clubmates in the activity. A short discussion ensued about a possibility of doing an inventory at the Town Pond, putting the workshop presentation on the BCC webpage, and invasive plant information in the lobby of the Town office.

VLAP (Volunteer Lake Assessment Program)

Mr. Ball said that the first sampling is scheduled for May 25th at 10 AM and invited other members to attend. Sara Steiner from NHDES will be supervising the first sampling and will bring her equipment as well. Mr. Ball also provided details about the refresher workshop conducted by NHDES on May 20. He noted that a review of sampling locations has been discussed with Ms. Steiner and NHDES will correct the locations of the sampling stations.

Turee Pond Kiosk

Ms. Waskin said she has not been out to take a look at the kiosk. A short discussion ensued about what information needs to be updated. The commission also discussed the need to have waste containers by the kiosk; Turee Pond milfoil maps (comparing fall of 2016 and May 2017 milfoil locations) received from NHDES; effectiveness of using divers to eliminate milfoil, and probability of it reseeding during the pulling.

Bow Open Spaces

Meeting with Nicole Gage and Bow Open Spaces (Hilary and Harry) re: BCC and Bow Open Spaces (BOS) website – Coordination of website content.

Ms. Crystall informed the members about the meeting during which websites for BOS and BCC were discussed. She asked the members to browse the BCC website and make suggestions about its organization and relevancy of posted information.

Conservation Easement Monitoring

Ms. Crystall noted that this agenda item had been discussed during the conversation with Mr. Klemarczyk earlier. She also noted that she is in the process of trying to combine information from different sources on Town-owned land into one coherent document (easements, logging data, etc.).

Planning Board/ZBA referrals, mail, workshops (past and future)

Master Plan – draft Natural Resources section.

Ms. Crystall distributed a draft of the Natural Resources Chapter of the Master Plan that is in the process of being updated. She asked the members to go through and provide their comments/suggestions. Discussion ensued about whether so much detail is necessary for the Master Plan document. Mr. Ball expressed his satisfaction with the level of detail and the way the Chapter is written and said that he does not feel the need to cut anything out.

Other items

CC comments form for NHDES permit applications

Ms. Crystall said that the need to address the issue arose from the three wetland permits the Town had submitted to the NHDES and the BCC had received copies. Should BCC be reviewing such permits deadlines must be taken into account and a form could be developed for comments. Ms. Crystall will research other towns to see what is done in similar situations and try to draft a form for the commission to discuss.

Conservation Commission Guidelines

Ms. Crystall is in the process of drafting the guidelines.

Next Meeting: June 12, 2017.

Mr. Ball moved, Ms. Waskin seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM