

Town of Groton Conservation Commission
754 North Groton Road
Groton, NH 03241

Minutes for the November 14, 2013 Conservation Commission Meeting

The Groton Conservation Commission convened at 7:01 PM. Members in attendance were Lou Lieto, Bob Ferriere, Nancy Watson, Steve (Slim) Spafford, and Paula Stata. Miles Sinclair, Select Board representative was absent.

The minutes from the September 26, 2013 meeting were reviewed and corrected. Lou moved to accept the minutes as corrected.

Vote: Yes-5, No-0, 1 absent.

Bob Ferriere presented an update of KHPAC actions since last CC meeting:

*Marsha Beecey from Manchester was selected as the appraiser for the project.

*The Foreco Forester is unable to meet our time constraints for the timber cruise. Bob contacted four additional foresters. He received an estimate from Shawn Laqueux and an email from Janice Mulherin. This information was turned over to the KHPAC committee.

Lou Lieto reported on the meeting he and Chuck Stata (KHPAC Chairman) had with Lisa Doner, PSU Associate Professor in Environmental Science. They discussed the possibility of environmental interns to assist in the study of Kimble Hill Property and other ways PSU Environmental Science and KHPAC can work together.

Lou attended the NH Association of Conservation Commissions annual meeting. He brought back materials that could be useful to future Conservation Commission activities. NHACC has booklets and pamphlets on how to work with interns and what type of activities could get Groton citizens involved. Rebecca Brown gave a presentation on creating a community forest. The CC may contact her to give a presentation in Groton. Lou reinforced the message that conservation is not preservation. The literature will be filed in the CC cupboard.

Bob Ferriere will be attending the Grafton County Conservation Commission November meeting and will report on it at the next meeting.

The CC members discussed how the conservation commission and the Planning Board could work together in the future for the benefit of the Groton environment. Slim (Planning Board Chairman) suggested it would be helpful to assist in researching wetlands and other environmental and/or conservation conditions. The role of the CC is to advise the Planning Board and provide information that the board can use to make informed decisions.

Motions:

Lou moved that authorization for expenditures over \$100 shall be made by vote of the Commission. Amounts less than \$100 may be authorized by the Chair or in the absence of the chair, by the Vice Chair. Any authorization for expenditure of Conservation Commission funds shall be made in writing by two officers to the Town Treasurer. Only the Town Treasurer or a person designated by the Groton Select Board to act on the Town Treasurer behalf may issue checks of behalf of the Conservation Commission. After some discussion, Slim moved to amend the amount of expenditure to \$50. Nancy seconded. The amendment passed. The amended motion passed. Yes-5, No-0, Absent-1

Lou moved that authorization to attend events that require a fee, require that the member obtain approval from the Commission in order to be reimbursed. Mileage and/or other expenses shall not be paid unless specifically approved. Prior authorization to attend and be reimbursed for fees shall not be required of persons who have been appointed as Commission representative for the organization sponsoring the event. After some discussion, Bob moved to amend the motion so that mileage will be paid for the person who has been appointed as the Commission representative for the sponsoring organization without prior authorization. Nancy seconded the amendment which was passed. The motion the passed Yes-5, No-0, Absent-1

Bob requested that the mileage for the for the Grafton County Conservation Commission be paid at the IRS mileage rate. Lou so moved. Slim seconded. The motion passed Yes-5, No-0, Absent-1

Lou gave an update on the Groton pond. The bridge over the brook is in progress. Lou stated that he had requested that debris around the pond be raked and piled, not burned. He also stated that hunting permission was requested and given for the area around the pond. The permission was given for 2013 hunting season. Lou requested that the hunter remove the entrails from any successful hunts. Bow and arrow hunting was also given for the 2013 season.

After reviewing the suggestions for the name of the pond, Bob moved that the pond be named Groton Town Pond. Lou seconded. The motion passes Yes-5, No-0, Absent-1

Lou suggested that the Conservation Commission and the Kimball Hill Property Acquisition Committee (KHPac) plan a joint meeting to discuss how the Conservation Commission can assist KHPac

Paula suggested we make a sign up sheet for the NHACC materials in the CC closet.

Nancy moved to adjourn at 8:29. Slim seconded. Motion passes Yes-5, No-0, Absent-1

Respectively submitted, Paula Stata