

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

Meeting Minutes from July 10, 2014

The Groton Conservation Commission convened at 7:10 PM. Members in attendance were Robert Ferriere, Louis Lieto, Steve (Slim) Spafford and Nancy Watson.

Miles Sinclair was absent.

The minutes from the May 8, 2014 meeting were reviewed. A few minor typo corrections were made changing an "s" to "d" and adding periods after \$27.50 and \$400. Lou motioned to accept the minutes and Bob seconded. The motion passed Yes - 4, No - 0, Absent - 1.

Bob filled in for Miles on updating the Kimball Hill progress. Timbervest did not accept the town of Groton's purchase offer for the Kimball Hill property. They did not counter, but offered some reasons for the rejection. Lou suggested letting the town's people know the outcome, which could be posted on the town website.

A discussion was held about the combined opening celebration and fishing derby at the Groton Town Pond. Members felt the event was a major success. Bob reported the expenses as follows:

\$222.75 - Trophies and Badges  
\$22.50 - Advertising Flyers  
\$405.00 - Fish  
\$44.05 - Refreshments and Paper Goods

\$694.30 - Total Expenses

Bob suggested Glen Hansen mow the other side of the pond for future events to provide access and spread out the attendees. He also suggested ordering more fish, to which Lou and Slim replied that 200 was probably enough. Lou questioned if the CC should purchase fish food for the remaining fish in the pond. The cost for a bag is approximately \$25 at Tractor Supply. Nancy motioned to buy the fish food. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed Yes - 4, No - 0, Absent - 1.

Glen Hansen should be thanked for his work mowing the pond area and constructing the bridge on time. Lou will draft a thank you letter and send it out to CC members to review.

A suggestion was made to have Venture Print put together a collage of photos from the event, similar to the poster made a few derbies ago. Nancy will forward photos to Lou to

review for the collage. Bob will retain all paperwork, including who won each category, etc. for reference at future derby events.

There was a continuation of discussion of town properties, which are listed in the town report, in addition to known properties in conservation already, i.e. the Cockermouth Forest. Members questioned what other towns are doing with their properties? A question was asked about who pays to have a natural resources inventory completed. Should it be a warrant article? PSU was interested in assisting with the research due to the Kimball Hill property. Now, with pursuit of obtaining Kimball Hill on hold, that is no longer the situation.

Lou suggested spending the next CC meeting exclusively reviewing the town properties. The CC should obtain a focus of what we can offer the townspeople in regard to information about the land, such as what unique features each property possesses.

The properties of focus are as follows:

Map 1/Lot 88 - 7.94 acres located off Campbell Lane (private road)

Map 2/Lot 26 - 8.5 acres on Old Rumney Road (long, narrow lot)

Map 2/Lot 123 - 47 acres off North Groton Road (Difficult to access. Will require passage through property of Barodo. Lou will contact Bonnie Lane to ask if the CC can obtain permission to cross his land to access the property)

Map 10/Lot29 - 5 acres on Halls Brook Road (Halls Brook runs through rear of property)

Lou will follow up with Jo O'Connor to write something in her newspaper column about encouraging interest in the CC. Members made suggestions of residents in town who may be interested in joining. The CC will hold off on any NRI until more knowledge is obtained and more members join. Bob whole-heartedly recommended attending the Saving Special Places conference for this very reason.

### **New Business** -

Slim shared an invite from the New England Wild Flower Society for an event titled "A Conversation About Climate Change and NH's Native Plants". The event will be held on July 22nd at 10:30 AM at the Winnepesaukee Play House located at 50 Reservoir Road in Meredith. Pre-registration is required at 603-273-5084.

The NHACC (Nature Conservancy) is requesting all the maps of conservation areas/protected land from each town in order to GIS these sites. Maps should be sent to Ernest Dankwah, GIS/Conservation Lands Intern by August 1st. He wishes to have the information by early July. Slim will consider taking the maps down to Concord to have Ernest scan them, rather than sending them.

The next CC meeting is scheduled for August 14th.

Bob moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. Slim seconded. The motion passed Yes - 4, No - 0, Absent - 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Watson  
Conservation Commission Co-Secretary  
July 17, 2014