

Jaffrey Conservation Commission Minutes Draft

Meeting held at Town Offices August 23, 2017

Present: Carolyn D. Garretson, Chair, Kathy Batchelder, Nan Beiter, Serra Gauthier, Charles Koch, Tom Rothermel, Elizabeth Webster, Recorder, Cush Moore (Select Board Rep)

Regrets: Pam Armstrong, Nora Barton Bryant, William Graf, Francis McBride, Patricia Weiner

Guests: Bud Taylor; Ann Marie Furnival

I. The meeting convened 7:00 PM. Mr. Taylor briefed the Commission on his plans for his property, 219 Gilmore Pond Rd., particularly with regard to the woodlands, reservoir shoreline and wetlands.

Ann Marie Furnival was introduced. She expressed concern about over-building and loss of undeveloped land. She also spoke of a neighbor whose use of Tannerite (explosive) is inconsiderate and who has blocked the access to conserved land. She has spoken to the police about the Tannerite, and was advised to speak to the Monadnock Conservancy about the access issue. Ann Marie may be interested in further participation in the ConComm.

Serra Gauthier has received the approval of the Select Board to join the Conservation Commission as an alternate. Welcome, Serra!

II. The minutes of the July 26 meeting were approved. A motion was made to rescind the following: *The Jaffrey Conservation Commission objects to the July 5th ZBA decisions on the proposed Belletete's expansion and will make an appeal.* Passed.

III. Financial Review – CDG presented a current accounting.

IV. Ongoing Items

A. Forest Management, Carey Park – CK, CDG, and BG met Aug. 15. They reviewed the access to the property. Currently, there is an impassible Class VI road, which would require improvement to be used for logging. Although the cost of improvement would be covered by the timber sale, the road would need protection from overuse. Re-classification of the road as a Class A Trail would serve this function by precluding vehicles, but requires approval at Town Meeting. CK will research RSAs.

It is suggested that the timber be harvested in cluster cuttings, rather than clear-cut.

B. CPCA –Jed Paquin has surveyed and flagged the two entrances to the Cheshire Pond Conservation Area (CPCA), at a cost of \$600.00. Motion to pay Jed Paquin \$600.00 for services rendered: Passed.

Randy Heglin believes the egress from the Nutting Rd. entrance makes it too dangerous to expand as a designated parking area.

The abutters to the LeTourneau Rd. entrance have expressed concern over the proposed changes to that area. The CPCA parking lot sub-committee will meet at CDG's Sept. 13 at 7 PM to draft a proposal, to be reviewed by the ConComm at September's meeting. Concerned individuals will be invited to the October meeting to discuss the proposal.

CDG has requested assistance in writing a Moose Plate grant application to fund boardwalks in CPCA. KB and CK have agreed to help.

C. ZBA: Belletete's – The ZBA will re-hear the application Sept. 19. The ConComm will meet Sept. 13 at CDG's to prepare a statement.

D. Van Dyke – The Mildred Dunham Conservancy was created Aug. 2016 to oversee the easement created as part of the Van Dyke development. It is unclear whether this is a Qualified Conservation Agency as required by the Planning Board. NB to review documents.

E. Mail – CDG received a request for approval of a treehouse constructed on Gilmore Pond. This approval is unnecessary. CDG will inform Rob Deschenes so that he may inform Mr. Hamlin.

V. New Business

A. Town-Owned Land – With the exception of Childrens Woods, no conservation easements are held on any of the town-owned lands, including those overseen by the ConComm; an appropriate third party would need to be involved.

B. Envirothon – The students sent gracious Thank You notes. They will be invited to present a slideshow at the Dec. 6 meeting.

C. Education Program – CDG suggested that Steve Roberge might present a program in Sept. or Oct. SG has volunteered to act as liaison with the schools for a program in the spring.

D. Pesticide Petition – Citizens have drafted a petition requesting a change in the town's turf management protocol. SG has volunteered to contact other towns in the region to find out if any of them use organic methods, and if so, the associated costs.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM. The next meeting will be held on September 27, 2017, 7PM at the Town Offices.