

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: January 9, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brett St. Clair, Jim Stone, Darlene Jarvis, Mel Gendron, George Holt, Ron Jarvis, Stan Sowle

Alternates Present: Matt Lavey, Margaret Watkins

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Alternates Absent: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Kimball Pond Conservation Area (KPCA)

Unauthorized snowmobile trail

Brett St. Clair reported that he located the snowmobile trail Stephen Walker discovered during his annual monitoring visit. The new trail is not a leg of the state trail and is being used. Brett, Jim Stone and Matt Lavey have now posted "closed/unauthorized trail" signs and felled a few trees across the trail. Brett contacted Steve to inform him of the actions taken to handle the violation and Steve suggested that now might be a good time to update the KPCA trail maps using GPS.

Gravel area

Brett voiced some concern regarding the Town's wish to remove gravel from an area in the KPCA which is west of Kimball Pond Road. Wording allowing the removal of gravel from this spot was intentionally inserted in the original easement. Brett will draft a letter to the Selectmen to spell out the Commission's expectations before the Town needs to take material from this area.

Proposed Open Space Ordinance

The Planning Board has drafted an ordinance to replace Article VI which currently deals with "Planned Residential Developments". Planning Board and CC member George Holt summarized the article. Members present agreed that, in most instances, any designated open space would best be managed by a "homeowners association". The Commission does not want to be charged with monitoring small tracts of land with no conservation value. George stated that he would take the Commission's concerns to the public hearing scheduled for January 16, 2013.

NEW BUSINESS:

Query regarding land protection

A Dunbarton resident contacted the Commission regarding possible protection of their land. Margaret Watkins is following up with the landowner.

Conservation Fund

Brett reported that the Kimball Pond dam registration fee has been paid out of the Conservation Fund leaving a balance of \$36,834.37.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 – Planning Board’s public hearing regarding an Open Space Ordinance to replace Article VI which currently regulates cluster subdivisions. The hearing will be held in the DES library.

NEXT MEETING: February 13, 2013, 7:30 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Darlene M. Jarvis