

CAMDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

7PM WSCR

February 29, 2012

Present: Bob Gassett, Douglas N. Johnson, John Evrard and Carla Ferguson

Absent: Robin Kern and David Kern

Excused: Barbara Melchiskey

Chair Bob Gassett called the meeting to order promptly at 7pm.

Secretary Doug Johnson read the minutes of the prior meeting which we approved as presented.

Robin Kern was unanimously approved to be Treasurer, and will begin by investigating our account(s) and report.

Newsworthy:

1. Bob and John attended the Chris Rector (state representative) meeting in Rockport.
2. There is a second community Master Plan meeting on March 14, 2012 at the Knox Mill. The questionnaire was distributed and should be returned to the town by March 2, 2012.
3. The Camden State Park multi-use trail continuation is being revisited & last time around residents in Lincolnville were in an uproar about poor trail construction which buried old stone walls and desecrated old trees. The continuation would enter land in the Town of Camden.
4. Bob met with Scott Dickenson of CMLT and reviewed our Natural Lands Survey and Map of the Town.
5. Bob e-mailed the chair of the Rockport Conservation Commission and reviewed vernal pool mapping possibilities, especially aerial photos of fairy shrimp, spotted salamander and wood frog habitat.
6. Bob & our liaison Morgan Laidlaw (Selectman) walked the Megunitcook Riverwalk. (Tannery)
7. Bob phoned Barbara Dyer, ad hoc town historian.
8. Bob e-mailed Chris Audet of the High School Outing Club.

Next, In honor of National Invasive Species Week, we put our heads together about two pressing and perplexing invasive we have dealt with recently at the Tannery is poison ivy and Japanese Knotweed. John, a former goat keeper, suggested contract hiring of a small goat herd to pasture on the two obnoxious plants, both of which are considered gourmet cuisine by goats. Note: goat milk infused with digested poison ivy has antidotal properties; consumer develops resistance to ivy poisoning. John will investigate further and report.

The Lincolnville Vernal Pool meeting was successful and in attendance were the whole Lincolnville Conservation Commission, two educators from University of Maine in Orono, three Camden Conservation Commission members and CMLT Land Manager Ian Stewart. An outdoor workshop is in the works.

LD1810- The Takings Bill – A compensation for Diminished Value of Property due to Conservation Land was discussed. The Natural Resources Council objects and urges members to stop LD1810 in its tracks.

We began an informal discussion of goals for 2012 and will continue next meeting when we will strive to reach consensus and prepare a list of goals for this year. Bob mentioned we are responsible for Tree City USA status, thanks to Nancy Caudle-Johnson, and the commission serves as the tree board for the Town& Tree City USA requirement.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32PM

The next meeting is March 28, 2012 at 7PM in the WSCR.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas N. Johnson, Secretary