

Conservation Commission Minutes DRAFT  
Apr. 2, 2018  
5:30 PM, Town Office

Members present: Brian Byrne, Mark Ross-Parent, Mike Dufilho, Bill Terry, Margaret Graciano, Pam Smillie  
Hank Benesh filmed  
Susan Ross-Parent took notes  
Members of public: Joanne Brooks, George Howard, Burr Philips

Review Minutes (Feb. 4 and Mar. 5 Meeting) Meeting called to order at 5:38. Feb. 4 minutes were already approved at March meeting. March minutes approved as written. Read over Feb. 19, 2018 work session minutes. Minutes approved as written.

Public Comment: George Howard: Prospect Farm could be called "Historic Prospect Farm." - in latest Jackson History. Talked with Warren Shoemaker about putting it on the NH Places of Historic Interest - zoning may need to be changed for access - when talking about plan for PF: timber management plan exists - one focus on habitat and good timber management - and to maintain the historic culture of the area.

Change the name? Nothing in the deed to impede this idea. Zoning and town planning docs: look to see what should take place in a historic area. Timber management was one of the activities.

George would like to help anyway he can. His grandfather worked there.

Why does CC meet at 5:30 at dinner time? Ans: momentum for members to go straight from work to meeting.

Clarifying question: should PF be make a historic site?

George's answer: could help with applying for a historic designation that would be a guide in management plan based on the original idea of preserving historic nature. Restrictions in a historic designation - nordic skiing? CC member suggests: comparing how it's used now with the expectations of a historic designation.

CC question: How did it come to be called Prospect Farm?

George: not sure. his dad called it that. Some was called Camp Wildcat. Will check his great grandfather's diary from the early 19s. Will lend it to CC.

Joanne suggests: ask Alice Pepper - discussed in her history of Jackson.

George - maybe the group of properties was re-named Prospect Farm. Will work on the historic designation process and come back to CC.

#### Prospect Farm

Management plan update - edits handed around for reading and comment. Suggestions will be incorporated into doc and CC will return to the mission statement. Mission statement is meant to convey the philosophy that guides the management of PF, less a list of approved activities.

Burr Philips came by to discuss a water precinct proposal to reroute and bury a waterline from the bottom of Green Hill to the Red Fox. This more direct route will improve/expedite repairs of the line, and improve fire protection. Will eliminate the loop that goes north before heading towards Red Fox, and will allow fewer buildings to lose access to water if it's shut off

for repairs. Burr showed and explained the plans to CC, describing project and pointing out wetlands and streams.

Water Precinct will file an expedited wetlands permit. Could CC sign the application?

Currently - water line finishes off Green Hill Rd and then ends. North area, Shannon Door, etc, are served by a pipe that crosses the Ellis River, crosses Rt. 16, and then turns toward the Red Fox.

CC question: will the wetlands be repaired?

Burr: yes, replanted. There are several disturbed spots in that wetlands area.

CC question: we need a group of 3 to walk the area. What's the time line?

Burr: long before the next meeting - sign tonight or walk it and sign and Burr will pick up.

CC process to approve permit: 3 member subcommittee will walk the area (3 can get together quicker than the whole CC) and identify concerns, bring back to CC to sign off. CC will look at it, vote to approve subcommittee review. Subcommittee will walk the site, if concerns will delay the permit for further discussion. If subcommittee finds no problem, will sign off and let Burr know.

Burr had message from Tom: CC needs an engineer to look at the paperwork from the DOT about eliminating the parallel parking.

Burr suggests considering the impending work on the bridge and that the company contracted to do the work has drawings of a path from the bridge to the falls. That would affect the parking.

#### Jackson Falls

Spring Plans - date based on arrival of the seedlings. Dogwood is available for "sticking" - rooting the switches. Volunteers: Pam can get cuttings. Will contact CC when she's going to do it.

Seedlings - in early April - workday needs to be within a week of getting plants.

Parking - see above with Burr's comments. Suggestion: hire Burr to draw a map of the falls area to show NHDOT what the plan is.

Apparently, can't back out into Carter Notch Rd (single lane) so is parallel parking better? Ans: for traffic? Doors open into road. Parking area may be grandfathered. Conclusion: parking plan needs to be revisited and none of the parking is good. Look into hiring Burr to either draw or update a map. Member assigned to learn process of hiring Burr.

Gray's Inn - suggestion to walk the Mystery Loop trail, check signs, and fallen trees. Not the same trail as the story trail with the library story boards.

Wetland Permits - wetlands subcommittee will set time to walk the Water Precinct permit.

Private residence - driveway bridge on Eagle Mtn Road R12 - 555 lot#2.: Subcommittee will walk on same date. Wood deck, steel I beams, 45' long, raising grade, 100 sq ft wetlands impact will be permanent - bridge will stay as built. (in Water Precinct application, the pipe will be buried and the area restored.) Will the wetlands be filled? Do the abutters know? Motion to approve if no concerns of subcommittee once they walk it. The abutments noted as "destroying part of riparian barrier." Further explanation may be needed: 100 sq ft of wetland impacted? 45 ft span to save portion of wetland? Vote to send subcommittee and consider the plan once subcommittee walks the application area.

New Business / Public Comment - Still waiting for wetlands permit application from JSTF to relocate the John and Henry away from the Kendall property. This trail is FIS certified (?) for racing so needs to be re-engineered to maintain that status.  
Motion to adjourn and approved: 7:50 PM.

As always, the public is encouraged to attend and share their vision for the use of Jackson town properties and other conservation priorities. Our meetings are typically at 5:30 PM at the town office building on the first Monday of each month