

Note: These minutes are to be considered draft minutes until approved by the Conservation Commission.

Members present: Marla Binzel, Emily Cleaveland, Ken Jacques, George McCusker, Daphne Klein, Dan Saulnier, Tim Fraser.
Also: Cynthia Bruss

Marla opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes: Ken made a motion to approve the minutes of 5/7/20. George seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

Town Lots:

- Cynthia Bruss gave Marla the information she had on the Knowlton lot. Marla then passed it along to Dan since he is organizing the perambulation of the four town owned lots in the northeast corner of Springfield.
- Dan then gave a brief outline of what he plans to do in these lots. The four lots encompass about 250 acres, with a perimeter of about 3 ½ miles. In addition to refreshing the existing blazes along the boundaries, the CC members who go out will put up town boundary signs at the lot corners and make note of anything unusual or interesting that they observe. Dan asked who would like to take part. Daphne expressed interest and will bring the town signs that she has from a previous walkabout.
- Ken said he talked to Pierre Bedard and asked if he had any information on the lots that would be helpful, but Pierre said he doesn't have anything more than what the CC already has.
- **Collins Park work day** will be June 14th at 1:00 pm. Tim, Dan, Emily, and Marla volunteered to take part. Ken will try to stop by to look at the old dump that is on the site, as a decision will have to be made about what to do with that material. Marla said that the Garden Club may be able to help with putting in a bench and plants when the time for that comes.

Outreach:

- The white spruce tree donated by the Eastman Charitable Foundation was planted between the skateboard park and the basketball court and so far is doing well. Marla wrote the Select Board expressing appreciation for the work Peter and Troy did on this project. George said the Select Board has written a letter of thanks to the ECF.
- Emily said that in the past many people enjoyed getting a tree sapling from the CC at Old Home Day. Now that the Old Home Days have been discontinued, she asked if the CC could in some way continue this tradition. One idea was that once things open up again in the state, there might be some kind of ceremony to thank the ECF for their tree donation and the CC could give away saplings then. Nothing was decided at this time.

Discussion regarding state vs. local protection of water bodies:

- Marla explained that she put this on the agenda to talk about ways the CC might be able to provide information to people in town about the importance of protecting Springfield's water bodies from pollution and storm water runoff. Lake Kolelemook is an important asset to everyone who lives in Springfield, not just to the people who own lakefront property. As the town has seen, NH DES isn't able to address all the complaints it receives, so Marla is wondering whether the town could do more to protect Kolelemook and other water bodies in town and what the CC's role might be. Ken said that at this point most of the town's

ordinances are based on the state's ordinances. Most of the lots on Kolelemook are non-conforming lots, so most new construction will require variances. The Zoning Board always makes site visits to determine how the construction can be done with the least impact on the lake.

- A discussion followed about how the CC can get information out to people in town about ways all of us can help protect water quality. Dan said that the Planning Board will be sending out a questionnaire to everyone in town to collect data for the new master plan. He said this would be an opportunity to hear from people in town about what they think about things such as lake protection and Class VI roads. Dan said he would email CC members a copy of the survey that was used before the last master plan. Ken suggested that Marla ask Janet for copies of the reports that Whit Smith (Zoning Coordinator) prepares for the Select Board.
- When things open up in the state, the CC will look into sponsoring programs for the public, possibly partnering with the lake associations in town. Marla asked Emily if she would be the point person for gathering information on plantings people can do to minimize water run off. The UNH County Extension is an excellent resource.
- Marla would also like to update the information on the CC's page on the town's website and make it more visually appealing. Tim has some ideas on how to do this and is willing to work on it.

Zoning/Planning/Selectmen Reports:

- George reported that one issue the Select Board is dealing with right now that affects the whole town is when/how to open the town beach. The SB is looking into permits for residents. For more details on this and other issues, see the Select Board's minutes. Daphne thanked George for talking to Peter about a Class VI sign for Fowlertown Road. Peter had the sign up on the Monday after the CC met!

Communications and Miscellaneous:

- Cynthia Bruss introduced herself as a member of the newly formed Agriculture Commission. She said that the Master Plan noted the importance of encouraging agriculture in Springfield and that anyone with a vegetable garden is considered part of the agricultural community and the Commission wants to help people who are interested in getting started. Currently they are meeting weekly and they are looking for people who would like to help. Dan asked if the Commission will be teaching best practices in terms of environmental impacts and Cynthia said that yes, that is definitely one of their goals.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Dan and Daphne will refresh blazes and put up town property signs on the four town owned lots in the northeast corner of town.**
- **Collins Park work day June 14th at 1:00 pm.**
- **Marla will check with Janet about getting copies of Whit Smith's reports.**
- **Emily will be the point person for gathering information about plantings that can reduce water run off.**
- **Dan will email the previous Master Plan survey to CC members.**
- **Marla and Tim will work on updating the CC webpage.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by: Daphne Klein, Secretary