

Town of Concord
Conservation Restriction Stewardship Committee
Minutes of Jan. 22, 2019 Meeting
133 Keyes Road, second floor conference room

Attendees: Kathy Angell, David Bell (chair), John Ferguson, Neil Ryder, Mary Ann Lippert
Art Schwope, Jane Wells, Delia Kaye, Natural Resources Director, Lori Capone,
Natural Resources Assistant Director.

Observing: Richard Higgins and Michelle Wiggins

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

1. Introductions were made to our observers and potential new committee members.
2. A motion to approve the Dec. 11, 2018 meeting minutes was made by Kathy, seconded by Mary Ann, and passed unanimously.
3. Committee Work -
 - a) Monitoring Reports in progress –
 1. CR #10 Emerson – David and John visited on Friday, Dec. 21. No issues emerged on the larger, northern portion. On the smaller southern portion, a new house has been built near the edge of the CR, a dog fence has been erected into part of the CR, and confirmation of a previously existing bound was not possible because its location is inside the dog fence. Town staff is going to visit the property to determine if any problems exist. The report on the northern portion will be mailed to the landowners in a few days.
 2. CR #16 Hammond Chase – Lori is making some final edits on the report and then it will be sent to the landowners.
 3. Walden Square Trust CR #19 – Art promptly visited and wrote this report. It will be going out to the landowners by the end of this week. A note will be added to the cover letter or report that the compost bins are not permanent.
 4. CR #145 CHA Thoreau St. – This is in the queue for Mary Ann.
 5. Hurley – Pond View CR #100 – This is in the queue for Jane and Kathy. Given the proximity of the homes and lawns to the boundary of the CR, Kathy is going to make sure there is no snow on the ground before doing this visit.
 - b) New CR – Last week Delia had shared a new CR for the Concord Land Trust’s Hartwell Meadow parcel and asked for any comments and any additional language that should be included. Art pointed out a reference to a paragraph B that seemed to be missing. Kathy wanted one more day or so to read it. Otherwise there was no further discussion on anything missing or needed.
 - c) BDRs
 1. The Macone Farm #123 BDR, once the CR is written, is assigned to John and David.
 2. John and David did an initial visit (there are six different landowners to coordinate with) to the Ayrshire CR (#1001). They need to return for photographs and to visit the other parcels.

3. Bartkus Farm #1002, Brewster's Ridge (#1005), and Landmark (#1019) are all in the queue to also be done.

d) Members volunteered to take the lead for the next round of monitoring visits for the following CRs:

1. CR #30, 31, 32, 45 Cambridge Savings – Art
2. CR #137 Concord River Walk – Mary Ann
3. CR #148 Monsen Farm – Kathy
4. CR #1020 Moses – Jane

With snow on the ground and visits fairly recently done (in the spring of 2017), a few other parcels were not assigned but remain in the queue (Wells CR #2, Moore Homes CR #57, Elm Brook CR #112, Wright Farm CR #1027).

A brief discussion was held on the Lowell CR (#25) and whether it was worth visiting. It was deemed not worthwhile because of its size and location (surrounded by two other CRs, but cut off from easy access by a fence) and tabled.

4. Other Business –

- a) David encouraged committee members who wanted to share their opinion on the Town Manager's search and on the qualities desired in the new manager to participate and/or share their thoughts with the committee in charge of that process.
- b) A potential town meeting article on a CR for the area of the town dump will not be on the warrant, so this topic was not necessary to discuss and was skipped over.
- c) A discussion was held on how to maintain and keep up-to-date Kathy's spreadsheets that track our work with each CR. Accessing the spreadsheets on Google Drive was shown. Three options emerged: 1) take time at or after each meeting to update them; 2) have one person do all the updating, with everyone emailing that coordinator with the appropriate information; 3) charging each member to be responsible for updating the information on the CR they have taken the lead on. With hesitation, the committee is going to try option #3 to see if it can work, individually and collectively.
- d) With Richard and Michelle hopefully joining the committee (replacing Kathy and David), David noted that John's term still expires on May 31 of this year, creating a vacancy. Thus, recruiting of another candidate is necessary. Kathy said that she would follow up with David Holdorf again to see if she couldn't convince him to join. Additionally, David pointed out that someone will need to volunteer to be the Secretary for the committee.
- e) Mary Ann asked and suggested that during our visits we should have and should insert long, perhaps orange-tipped, stakes where we find low-lying bounds as a service to help landowners learn/know where their boundaries are. The committee liked this idea, appreciating how easily such low-lying bounds are covered by leaves, buried into the ground, and their locations lost.

5. The committee's next meeting is Tues., Feb. 26, at 3:00 in the first floor meeting room.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Ann and seconded by Jane. The meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Bell