

## Canaan Conservation Commission

April 7, 2008

Attendees: Len Reitsma, Alice Schori, Bill Chabot, Kate Brooks, Dave Shinnlinger, Aaron Allen, Elizabeth Chabot

### **Nature Hut**

- Priority: work on easement process for the 100 acre parcel where the Nature Hut will be located. (It is currently considered town forest)
  - Aaron to find out what the process is- who to contact, how much will it cost, etc. He will start with the Upper Valley Land Trust

### **Canaan Street Proposed Subdivision (Dove parcel)**

Erin Darrow is no longer with the project. The project is not moving forward until a new engineer is appointed.

### **Earth Day**

- Road side pick up on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 8-9am. Meet at the Canaan Street Beach.
- Dave is working on Posters. He'll get them printed out this week so we can start hanging them.
- Aaron heard a local radio station say they offer free advertising for non-profits. He'll let us know which station
- Aaron will forward scout information to Bill.
- Dave will contact Cardigan Mountain School to see if they'll pick up their road
- Bill will look into gloves
- We need to get a tally of bags to provide to the Litter Free New Hampshire organization so we are eligible for two free elm trees

### **Conservation Commission Fund**

- We discovered recently that the money from the current use tax has not been put into the Commission Fund for 2006 & 2007. We have not been receiving statements. Aaron has requested the statements and will follow up with Kendra to be sure the issue is resolved.

### **Goose Pond Association**

- We've been approached again to help sponsor the Lake Host program.
  - Dave moved that the Commission support Lake Host programs to the amount of \$500, contingent upon resolving our Fund issue.
  - Len Seconded the motion
  - All approved
  - The division of these funds between Goose Pond and Canaan Street to be determined.

### **Moving forward**

- We should define current and future projects for the commission.

- We may consider a fund into which we put easement support money on an annual base.
- What is the mission of the commission?
- Consider gathering information of all public lands in a pamphlet. Len said there is some information already available. Cornish is starting a mapping project, and Lyme also has public land information.
  - Len has Bear Pond pamphlets that could be made available.
- Alice suggested that maybe we can tie in the idea of water resources/conservation with the meeting house readings or the August event.

#### **Terms**

- Previously we had discussed a co-chair shared by Bill and Aaron. Apparently that is not an option,
  - Aaron moved that he take the chairmanship for this year and Bill will take it for 2009.
  - Dave seconded the motion.
- The Select board has recently changed and we do not yet know who has been assigned to replace Kris Burnett as representation to the Conservation Commission

#### **Designation of the Mascoma River to the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program**

- Meeting attended by Kate and Alice
- Could offer the river additional protection by this designation
- Raises public awareness about value of good water quality
- For this to happen, local support is needed from the towns through which the designated portions of the river runs. Support can be in the form of letters from Conservation Commissions, selectboards etc.
- Alice to re-forward the link to the website to us so we can read through the information.
- The corridor is ¼ mile on either side of the river or 100 year flood plain, which ever is greater
- Dave moved to support the idea of this designation and gather more information.
- Bill seconded the motion
- All approved.

#### **Canaan Street Drinking water project**

- Proposal still not approved, but looks promising.
- Dave will attend an upcoming meeting and will keep us posted.
- Study of why the water is deteriorating
- Inventory of all septic systems
- Signage in the watershed area to promote awareness

#### **Minutes- March**

- Bill moved to approve the March Minutes
- Aaron seconded
- All approved.
- Bill moved to adjourn, Aaron seconded the motion, all approved.

***Next Meeting Monday May 05, 2008 7:00***