

Minutes for the 2 March 2016 Alexandria Conservation Commission Meeting

Call meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order by Erie Lamos at 18:31

Members present: Tom Larson, Steve Whitman, Ernie Lamos, George Whittaker, Jenny Tuthill, and Merry Ruggirello. Bob Piehler was present as a representative from the BOS

Excused: Andrea Tuthill, Dave Chapman. Note: Andrea and Dave are moving from the area and have resigned from the Commission effective 4/1/2016. The Commission would like to thank them for their service and wish them success in the future.

Guests: Ron Maclean (potential Member); Moriah Sanborn (potential Junior Member)

Financials: Operating: The 2016 operating budget of \$1,400 has been proposed. The Conservation Fund had a balance of \$19,171.82 as of 12/31/2015; there are still outstanding change of use penalty payments of \$3,075 due from 2 properties removed from "current use" in 2015 and 1 property in 2014.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from 27 January 2016; a motion to accept the minutes without change was made by Tom and 2nd by George - motion carried unanimously. Approved copies of the minutes will be sent to the Administrative Assistant and replace all "draft copies".

Permits: None

Old Business

- 2016 - NHACC Field Training Series Workshop Planning. Steve advised Nik that we had several areas in town which may be suitable for field workshops and requested more information to determine exactly what's involved from an ACC and property owner's prospective. Nik has left the NHACC, and Carol Andrews contacted Steve in response to a follow-up email to NHACC. She thanked us for our interest, but said that because of the distance, they would pass this year.
- The Alexandria Recreational Advisory Council has expanded its program to include workshops once a week where individuals are invited to make presentations to the group of children and their parents. A motion made by Jenny 2nd by Tom to contact Lorraine Jones, Director, ARAC for more details as to how the ACC might get involved. Motion carried unanimously. Bob indicated that the Fish & Game had a number of kits designed for schools to get kids involved with the outdoors. He will see what is available, and he and Steve will contact Lorraine. Steve has not followed up on this with Lorraine, but did get some information; basically the program replaces the old after school care program and is for one afternoon a week. Steve needs to follow up with Lorraine to get more specifics.
- At the September 23rd meeting it was agreed to name the town owned, reclaimed area in the bog in recognition of Kate Barrett's long service to the town as a member of the Conservation Commission. Dave Gagne has agreed to design and build the kiosk on the site and others will donate the materials. The kiosk will be placed this spring. It was decided that an announcement should be made to the public that the park has been named Barrett Park in honor of Kate Barrett. Jenny will draft a news release and Tom will make posters for placement in key locations announcing the event. Nothing has been done to date; however, Jenny will draft a news release and send out to Commission members for review.
- A Junior Commission Membership category has been established. Our Bylaws will be amended at our April 27th to reflect this new category.
- Bog Rd. maintenance committee. Create a group of individuals, under the direction of an ACC member to monitor and remove trash from Bog Rd. A sign-up sheet for those interested in helping to maintain the roadside was available at the deliberative session and at the primary election; 2 volunteers have signed up.
- Jeff Littleton from Moosewood Ecological has provided us with a proposal the complete the Alexandria NRI to include the Fowler River and the Smith River watersheds. The Commission agreed that Moosewood Ecological should be contracted to complete the NRI. Steve made a motion, 2nd by Ernie,

that Moosewood Ecological be selected complete the Fowler & Smith River NRI – motion carried unanimously. However, it was brought up that it might be more cost effective from a printing prospective to create an addendum to the current NRI rather than merging the new information into the current NRI. Steve will investigate printing charges under both scenarios and also check with Jeff Littleton as to how this might affect his estimate. George and Steve will identify properties and obtain permission to enter the land for field assessment work. The NRI will be contained all in one book, with new information developed from the Fowler & Smith Rivers NRI integrated. The cost for printing new NRIs [25 books] will not exceed \$350 per the quote from Venture Printing [Venture Printing did the original NRI and has the templates on file]. A quote for printing a second book was not obtained, as the additional charge for creating a separate book vs. integrating the new information would have been \$500. The mailing list has been compiled and letters will go out by 2/29.

- Discussion of the 1/13 workshop on Objective Setting and prioritization of these objectives was deferred until the 23 March mtg.
- Bob suggested that in as much as the town sells fishing and hunting licenses, they should also distribute the safety and informational material that goes with them. Bob has checked with the Fish & Game and they will furnish whatever we want. Barbra has agreed to stock the items and distribute them to whomever requests them. Bob also noted that notice that this information is available at the municipal building will be posted on the new Kiosk/bulletin board to be erected this spring outside of the town offices
- **New Business**
 1. Review of the Moosewood Ecological contract. A motion was made by Steve and 2nd by Bob that the contract proposal by Moosewood Ecological with the modifications suggested by Steve to Task 3 and Task 4 of Exhibit A be returned to Jeff with the request that he draw up a final contract for signature – motion carried unanimously.
 2. Review of ACC Bylaw changes. Discussion of suggested changes/modifications was deferred until the 23 March meeting as not all had had the opportunity to review the changes.
 3. Reminder that election of officers is coming up at the April meeting. The current term expiration dates were reviewed. It was decided by the Commission that effective as of the resignation date of Andrea Tuthill, the Commission will recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Merry Ruggirello be moved from Alternate to replace Andrea; and that Ron Maclean's application for appointment to the Commission be considered as a replacement for Dave Chapman. A letter to the Selectmen will be written upon receipt of the letters of resignation from Andrea and Dave. There was no discussion of possible officer candidates.
 4. Review of current term expiration dates. See #3 above
 5. Dues for 2016: NHACC, NHANRS. All agreed that we should renew membership in each, but nobody could recall receiving renewal notice. Steve will follow up.

Town Forest Update

No new developments at the town forest. Ernie walked the property this week and saw signs of coyote and bear. Jenny will post an update on our facebook page.

Other Business

None

There being no further business brought before the commission, a motion was made by George, 2nd by Tom to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 19:47. Our next scheduled meeting is March 23rd at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Whitman, Secretary
Alexandria Conservation Commission