

**Alexandria Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes of 4 December 2013 Meeting***

Meeting Called to Order at 19:07 by Vice Chair Don Gagnon

Members present: Don Gagnon, Steve Whitman, Janet Towse, Sue Hunt, Bob Piehler and Board of Selectman representative Ken Hall

Absent: George Whittaker

LOA: Kate Barrett

Minutes of the 23 October Mtg. were approved

Review finances: Operating budget balance as of 27 Nov 2013: \$638.89. Outstanding bill of \$292 for the printing of NRI booklets will be charged against 0620 Supplies in Dec 2013. 31 October 2013 balance is \$7,763.47. There is still no explanation provided to account for the payments of \$33.00 and \$758.00 made in Oct 2013. Letter sent to Town Treasurer requesting explanation on 20 Oct 2013.

Permits: None

Old Business:

- **Financial Accounting:** formulate a plan to ensure that better controls are exercised over the ACC account. Statements should include copies of all checks written on the account for the statement period. Sue Hunt will follow up with Town Treasurer and make this request.
- **Financial Accounting:** follow-up with Town Treasurer for explanation of \$33.00 and \$758.00 payments from ACC Savings account. Sue Hunt will follow up on this.
- **Field Trip 31 October 2013:** the minutes were reviewed and accepted as published. Ken indicated that the BOS also accepted the minutes without changes. There was further discussion about moving forward with the quote and plan submitted by the 'beaver deterrent' people, and Ken indicated that this would be taken up at a future BOS meeting. The ACC is no longer involved, as this is a town issue; however, we will act in an advisory capacity to the BOS, if requested. The issue of the washout of the banking near Washburn Rd. just west of the fire station was not discussed, although word has come to us that there may be help available through USACE's Emergency Streambank and Shoreline Protection program to help out with the Washburn Rd. problem; although this is a state issue and the town does not appear to want to get involved. The ACC is willing to assist the BOS should they wish to pursue this.

New Business

- **ACC involvement in the restoration/reclamation of the former "wolf property"** – the animals have all been removed and the property vacated. Inspection of the area has revealed no apparent signs of environmental, health or safety issues. Ken Hall visited the property recently and said that there is a considerable amount of trash left there in the form of plastic trash containers, plastic bottles and other plastic containers as well as metal of all sorts including the fencing, cages and an old jeep with no rims or tires just to name a few of the items. This

is private property and lacking evidence of any violations, the town has no recourse at this time. There are no known environmental issues, and the ACC is not involved.

- **SEC public hearing in Plymouth Tuesday 10 Dec 2013 [email sent to ACC members 12/3]** – brief discussion: limit of 200 attendees [as of 5:00pm, 12/4, 180 had registered]
- **NHANRS 2014 Annual Conference, Friday January 24, 2014 [info sheet whoever wants one]** – Steve will send copies of the notice and registration form to all members. Anyone wishing to attend should advise Don Gagnon.
- **New Hampshire Association of Natural Resource Scientists renewal dues \$20.00** – no one has attended any workshops/events in 2013; however, it was felt that the benefits derived from the newsletter and other informational material provided was worth the \$20 renewal fee even if no one took advantage of the workshops and events. Janet made a motion that we renew our membership, Sue seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. Steve will contact the NHANRS to see what needs to be done to renew membership as Alexandria Conservation Commission as membership is currently in Kate's name.
- **ACC Christmas** – brief discussion regarding a get-together at someone's home; anyone wishing to host event should contact Don.

Other New Business that may come before the Commission

Steve asked what Gary Patton [Road Agent] was planning to do as far as a 'dredging' an area(s) in Patton Brook near the bridge on Bog Rd. Ken said that Gary had advised the BOS that he was meeting with a private engineer to see about obtaining permits to straighten out the brook by removing 2 sandbars. This is not an ACC matter at this time; however, if permits are applied for the Commission will no doubt be involved and it was suggested that we advise the Road Agent to keep us informed as he moves forward.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 20:12

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Whitman, Secretary

***These minutes should be considered a 'DRAFT' until approved by the Alexandria Conservation Commission at a scheduled, public meeting**