

BRENTWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION Meeting of

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July 8, 2009

Members In attendance: Jody Kaufman, Heather Gilbert, Ray Jones, Emily Schmalzer, Heather Dudley-Tatman, and Rob Wofchuck, chair

Alternates in attendance: Victor Schmalzer,

Also, David Menter, Selectmen's Representative

1. Convened the meeting at 7:07 PM.
2. Wofchuck moved to give V. Schmalzer voting rights. Kaufman seconded. Motion passed.
3. Kaufman moved to accept the June minutes and Jones seconded. Kaufman and V. Schmalzer offered amendments. By voice vote the minutes were approved as amended. Dudley-Tatman abstained.
4. The commission continued to discuss whether the Open Space Committee should remain a separate committee or be part of the commission. V. Schmalzer had talked to Carroll at the NHCC to see if there were pressing reasons for the open space activities to be separate from the commission. He said there is a list of pros and cons to either option but no option clearly prominent. The commission decided that the open space activities will be conducted as part of the commission. Additional meeting will be scheduled if activities require.
  - a. Rob will call Sue Hoey to schedule a meeting to review the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and other opportunities available to the town.
5. The commission has received Forestry Management Plans for the Dunham and Mac Mullen properties both have easements. Wofchuck and other members reviewed the plans. No problems or comments were identified. Commission agreed Wofchuck should send a letter to landowners stating that the plans were received and that no additional requests are being made by the commission.
6. Exeter River Geomorphic Study. This study only included a portion of the river in Brentwood. They are trying to raise an additional \$4,000 to increase the study area. An application for funding is being prepared using the already funded Crawley Falls Bridge Repair as a soft match. The study is very comprehensive look at the Exeter River watershed with the goal of identifying areas that need improvement. Commission is supposed to be notified of schedule so that we can assist or observe.
7. V. Schmalzer was appointed by selectmen as Brentwood's third representative to ERLAC.
8. Easement monitoring still needs to take place. Kaufman tried the Merrill property but it was too wet.
9. PREP CTAP grant update. Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) is drafting ordinance for storm water management using most recent accepted model. Planning board will have meeting without VHB to review and comment on ordinance and then two meetings with VHB to discuss. Tentative schedule is to have VHB at the two August meetings.
10. Wofchuck asked commission on thoughts regarding outreach and education events. Commission discussed ideas such as Exeter River cleanup, roadside cleanup, Earth Day activities, vernal pool walks. Wofchuck hopes commission can identify goals and commit to events to plan ahead for 2010. Wofchuck suggested the possibility of sponsors and use of logos on web page as well as other promotional materials. Selectmen will need to be consulted. Wofchuck also suggested the commission looking into co-sponsoring events. Dudley-Tatman to look into Litter-Free New Hampshire and coordinating a roadside cleanup day/event.
11. Wofchuck provided commission with his suggestion based on research for a GPS unit and digital camera to aid in the completion of easement monitoring.

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- a. Garmin eTrex Legend HCx - costs about \$250. This has a highly sensitive GPS chip that works well under forest canopy. It has a color screen and an expandable/removable memory chip that we can store the routes for all the properties. E. Schmalzer moves to buy GPS. Jones seconds. Motion passes.
  - b. Canon Powershot A480 - costs about \$130 and uses 2 AA batteries so extra batteries can be brought in the field. Weighs 5 ounces. Kaufman moves to buy camera. E. Schmalzer seconds. Motion passes.
12. At 8:30 PM, Gilbert moved to adjourn, Kaufman seconded and the motion carried. The next meeting will be on August 12, 2009.