

## **Minutes of the Peterborough Conservation Commission Meeting September 19, 2019, Peterborough Town House, 6 p.m.**

Present: Jo Anne Carr, Swift Corwin, John Kerrick, John Patterson, Francie Von Mertens, Robert Wood; Select Board liaison Tyler Ward

July's minutes were approved. There was no August meeting.

### **Cunningham Pond Boat House deed restriction**

Carr suggested ConCom approve a deed restriction that there shall be no building allowed larger than 200 square feet and no septic. The number of buildings was not mentioned.

### **Budgeting easement monitoring**

Corwin strongly recommended annual budgeting for annual monitoring of conservation easements. \$6,000 was the ballpark figure mentioned. The ConCom's Land Acquisition and Management Fund balance in August was \$115,000. It handles ConCom expenses other than the ConCom's annual operating budget of \$3,000.

The Land Acquisition/Management Funds come from 50% of the annual Land Use Change Tax.

Von Mertens suggested a line item on the annual operating fund that would partially cover easement monitoring. Looking at the easements held by the Town/ConCom, there appear to be 16 to hire out. The remainder are easily done.

Carr said she would meet with Leo Smith in Finance to discuss options.

This year the ConCom is paying Richard Pendleton "not to exceed \$2,000" to monitor 6 easements. He has done half (D'Addamio-Bower, Simonds-Wollett, Wardwell-Cheney for \$840. To be done: Woods, Daloz, Dubois.

John Kerrick said he would monitor the three Monahan easements this year, as those files are in good shape given Richard Pendleton monitoring last year.

### **Woodman's project, Rte 202**

Carr expressed concerns over steep slopes, integrity of remaining trees as buffer to the condo development off Sand Hill Road, floodplain, and stormwater. CEI Engineering will be doing a report on that. Role of ConCom is unclear. Carr and Von Mertens will attend the hearing on October 7.

### **Pesticides**

Wood mentioned ConCom use of RoundUp on Fernald Field last fall (cut and paint stems), and his discomfort over the appearance of ConCom approval of RoundUp. Von Mertens will ask the local doctor who said there were no negative impacts to cite his sources for that statement. (It's assumed the negative impacts related to human health, whereas ConCom concerns relate to environmental.)

Updates: Nothing to report on Evans Flats/Sawmill property/Harris Center land swap. Corwin reported on an excellent workgang on the (his!) Cranberry Meadow trail.

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 6 P.M.**