

BRENTWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting of December 12, 2018

Members in attendance: Heather Gilbert, Emily Schmalzer, Edie Shipley, Rob Wofchuck, and Jeff Donald, chair

Selectmen's Rep in attendance: Phyllis Thompson

Alternates in attendance: Doug Cowie and Reid Bunker

Public Present: Eric Turer and Eric Kelley

Meeting convened at 7:05 PM

Wofchuck moved to give Bunker voting rights. Schmalzer seconded and motion passed.

Wofchuck moved the October Minutes, Gilbert seconded. Shipley had minor grammatical corrections and the minutes as amended were approved.

Bernie Lee from Severino and Joe Falzone, developer of Three Ponds Campgrounds, came before the committee to ask for approval for a wetland by notification. Mr. Lee presented a plan with photos and diagrams of two crossings. The development has been approved for a box culvert between the two ponds in the south of the property and a rigid span bridge to the west of the third pond. The original plans did not show culverts at these two locations and NHDES is requiring removal of these culverts. The original design for the crossings did not impact any wetlands but to remove the two culverts, it will require temporary wetland impacts. The disturbance to each will be 330 square feet and 200 square feet for a total of 630 square feet of temporary impact. Mr. Lee did not have the actual permit for the commission to review.

Gilbert motioned to authorize the Chair to review and sign the actual permit when received given that it is the same as what was presented in all materially aspects.

Eric Turer, 17 Peabody Drive, and Eric Kelley, 63 Peabody Drive, were in to discuss the spreading of manure on the Gove Property on South Road. Turer is a member of the Exeter Squamscott River Local Advisory Commission. Turer explained that on the morning of December 11 he was notified by Kelley that liquid manure was spread on the Gove property. They contended that this may not have been done in compliance with the Manual of Best Management Practices for Agriculture in New Hampshire dated July 2017. They cited Section 17. Avoid the application of manure on frozen ground or snow-covered fields. Manure applications on frozen ground or snow-covered fields usually increase the amount of manure-related pollutants that reach surface water bodies. They contended that the ground was frozen and that the manure could be running off down South Road and into the river. Furthermore, there was some concern and discussion about bacteria and the bacteria getting into the wells. Kelley stated he has had to shock his well twice in the last few years. Donald noted that the property is under an easement held by the Rockingham County Conservation Commission (RCCD) and suggested that Turer and Kelley contact RCCD to see if the easement required compliance with the Best Management Manual. Otherwise, the Best Management Manual is just recommendations and not regulations. RCCD would still have the option to discuss best management practices with the property owners if it was found they were not following them. Donald thanked Turer and Kelley.

Donald presented the 2019 Budget and noted that both the Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the budget as presented. Shipley motioned and Gilbert seconded that the Chair request any remaining balance in the budget be encumbered towards the 2019 Southeast Land Trust contract. Approved.

Donald discussed the recommendations from RCCD regarding repairing the lower stair at the stairs on Rowell Road West where there has been erosion. Donald mentioned that the road is currently closed due to flooding and a portion of road washed out. Donald suggested that the Commission wait on any decision to authorize RCCD to move forward with a repair until the water receded and an updated inspection can be done. All agreed.

Donald then presented an estimate from RCCD for a permit to do a second round of invasive plant control on the South Road / Split Rock Conservation Area. The cost of the permit is \$300. The estimated cost of the work would be 2/3 of 2018 cost or roughly \$2,800 for 2019.

Bunker moved and Shipley seconded to approve \$300 for RCCD to apply for permit for invasive control on South Road properties in 2019. Motion passed with Schmalzer abstaining.

Donald reported on a complaint regarding trash on Rowell Road North. He revisited recently and found large bags of the aluminum cans and some other miscellaneous items present. He noted there was progress in cleaning up the area.

Donald provided an update on the Split Rock Conservation Area. At the recent Selectmen meeting, they liked the proposed name of Split Rock Conservation Area but requested that the Commission get public input on the name. Donald is submitting an article asking for feedback in the December newsletter.

Wofchuck discussed the map for the Split Rock Conservation Area and circulated a map with the trails shown and samples of SELT maps that he proposes we use as a template for the map. There was consensus to move forward using the SELT maps as a template.

The commission discussed Hikes and Outings. January 19 was chosen for a moonlight snowshoe and Donald to get in newsletter and have someone check on availability of Recreation Center.

Glowacky had emailed a date in February and February 16 identified as a possible date for an additional snowshoe.

Donald received a note from the Southeast Water Shed Alliance (SWA) asking the town to formally appoint a representative. Motion by Wofchuck to nominate Schmalzer as SWA representative and Shipley as alternate. Motion passed.

Bills:

Donald presented \$200 bill for 2018 SWA membership. Thompson moved and Schmalzer seconded and motion passed.

Donald presented a bill for \$130.38 from Bob Magnusson for parts for bridge replacement on Split Rock Conservation Area. Bunker moved and Thompson seconded and motion passed.

Donald mentioned that Dani from SELT forwarded a draft letter to send to new owners of properties that have easements like Jane Storm property which recently changed hands. Jeff will send letter to new owners.

Donald mentioned that the possible violation on Commercial Drive easement was not actually a violation but that there had been an error in the mapping that has since been corrected.

At 8:35 PM Gilbert moved to adjourn, Thompson seconded and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Wofchuck