



TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting of August 7, 2008

Note: These minutes are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Commission.

Members present were: John Trachy, Cynthia Bruss, Daphne Klein, Todd Richardson, Jane Seekamp, Bob Ruel, and Don Hill. Absent were: Ken Jacques, Robert Anderson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by John Trachy.

Cynthia made a motion to accept the minutes of 7/3/08, seconded by Todd. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Bob Ruel was welcomed as the newest member of the CC.

Town Lands: Cynthia reported on her visit to the Society Lot and the Dutchman Pond Lot with Sara Callaghan of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests in preparation for laying out a new walking trail. The exact location for the walking trail will be determined when there is less foliage for better visibility.

Conservation Lands: Two new potential conservation easements in Springfield are being reviewed by the Ausbon Sargent Land Protection Trust (ASLPT).

John will represent the CC on 8/22/08 at the Woods Without Gile ceremony celebrating their conservation easement with the ASLPT.

Wetlands: There is continuing concern about the spread of purple loosestrife in town, as it is an invasive plant that will choke out other plants that are more beneficial to wildlife. Bob Ruel updated the CC on how the Baptist Pond Association is attempting to control it. Because purple loosestrife has a very tough root system, it is a difficult plant to uproot. The most effective way to control it, where it is already present, is to cut off the flower heads before they blossom. This must be done extremely carefully, as there are a great many



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Page 2 of 2 – August 8, 2008 Minutes

seeds in each flower head. Before actually cutting off the flower, one needs to hold a plastic bag around the flower to collect all the seeds and flowering parts.

It was decided that different CC members will try to accumulate as much information as possible on purple loosestrife and control methods and report back at the next meeting. Jane will contact UNH extension; Bob will contact DES; and Daphne will contact the Lake Sunapee Protective Association as well as a group that is active in the Upper Valley.

John noted that he had filed a complaint with DES regarding a shorefront owner that has again replenished beach sand without the necessary permit.

Communications and Miscellaneous: Bob Ruel has been researching projectors and screens that could be used by the CC and different town boards to make better use of the W/NRI information. A discussion ensued as to who would have access to the equipment and where it would be stored. John made a motion, seconded by Cynthia, to authorize an expenditure of not more than \$1300 from CC funds to purchase a projector and screen. Don Hill volunteered to discuss with the Selectmen the possibility of installing the projector and screen in the meeting room of the town office building. He will inform the CC if there are any concerns or problems with this proposal. The motion passed unanimously. Bob will put together a package of what he feels is the best equipment for the amount budgeted.

John and Cynthia both shared some informational mailings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daphne Klein
Secretary