

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Meeting- September 19, 2013

Present: Valerie Germain-Chairwoman, Jon Manley, John Baybutt, Rose Melanson

Guest: Peter Martel- Building Committee

Agenda:

1. Minutes
2. Old Business
3. Southwest Region Planning Natural Resource Priorities Survey
4. LCHIP Grant
5. Perambulation
6. Other

Chairwoman Germain called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**1. Minutes**

- a. The minutes from the August 15, 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

**2. Old Business**

- a. **Brochure & ID stands-** The brochure has been placed in the mailbox. The Commissioners set a tentative date of mid-October to have the ID stands finished and placed.
- b. **Banner-** The banner is in and looks great! It will be stored at the Town Hall.
- c. **Annual Bruce Edes Walk-** The Commissioners noted low attendance. An article and pictures appeared in the Transcript-Ledger the following Tuesday after the walk. In the future, Commissioners will consider sending an invitation for the walk to the Edes family.
- d. **River Clean up-** Jon Manley and Joe MacGregor attended the clean up. Crews will be needed to help cut downed trees in several areas of the river.

**3. Southwest Region Planning Natural Resource Priorities Survey**

- a. Chairwoman Germain provided Commissioners with copies of the Natural Resource Priorities Survey to fill in at their convenience. The Survey is due October 10, 2013. Commissioners need to return the Survey to the Town Hall for Chairwoman Germain to compile answers and submit.

**4. LCHIP Grant**

- a. Peter Martel, building committee, met with the Commissioners to discuss renovation plans for the VFW. Peter Martel will be forwarding the building plans to Chairwoman Germain to share with the Commissioners for feedback and suggestions to the building plan. The Building Committee has received a matching grant from the NH Preservation

and are working on putting together a proposal for renovating the VFW. The Building Committee is also seeking a small grant from NEGEF as they would like to have an energy conservation plan for the VFW and look at alternative energy sources for the building. Commissioners were invited to the Building Committees meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at the Bennington Town Hall.

- b. Chairwoman Germain provided Commissioners with a copy of the LCHIP Conservation grant program which is due September 27, 2013. The Commissioners discussed several possible projects that may fall under the guidelines for the grant. The Commissioners will meet on Sunday, September 22, 2013 at the Contoocook River access at the end of Bible Hill Road to draw up plans for a grant to submit to Kristie LaPlante to help put together the application. The Commissioners would like to put in granite steps at the river access to prevent erosion and improve recreational access.
- c. Peter Martel offered to help the Commissioners apply for a NEGEF seed grant. The Commissioners thanked Peter Martel for his offer.

**5. Perambulation**

- a. Commissioners set Sunday, October 27, 2013 for the Greenfield-Bennington line perambulation.

**6. Other**

- a. Jon Manley shared with the Commissioners a fold out brochure for invasive weeds of North America. He has ordered extra copies for those who would like a copy.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Karen Bartlett  
Conservation Commission Recording Secretary