

The Cumberland Conservation Commission (CCC) met on Sept. 13 at 6:35pm at the Cumberland Public Library, Hayden Center Meeting Room 4, 1464 Diamond Hill Rd., Cumberland with George Gettinger presiding. In attendance were Julie Guerin, Julie Medeiros, Mike Scalzi, Greg Myers, Dick Morrissey, and Briscoe Lang. Also attending were Mr. Michael Crawley, Mr. Chris Ratcliff and Ms Deborah Vine Smith.

Minutes: Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: None.

Old Business

Diamond Hill Park – Dr. Gettinger reported that the Gifford Design Group, a local landscape design firm has been hired to prepare plans for the park. A public meeting has been scheduled for Thurs., Sept. 20 from 4:30 -6:00pm at the park where residents are being asked to view the preliminary plans and provide input. Mr. Crawley, Parks and Recreation Director, was invited to attend the meeting to provide members with an update on the progress of plans for the park. He encouraged members to attend the public meeting.

Mr. Crawley also reported that Mr. Gifford has been meeting with DEM representatives, the Mayor, and himself during the process. Funds for the project will be sourced from state and federal grants. DEM

wetland alteration permits must be obtained prior to finalizing plans to make changes to the pond, which can take between 8 months and 2 years. He will obtain a copy for the CCC of the Master Plan for the park which was written in 1995 stewardship for the park was transferred from the state to the town.

Monastery trails – Mr. Morrissey reported that he worked with Town Council member Craig Dwyer to draft a Monastery Trails resolution over the summer with members' input. He successfully presented the resolution and the CCC plans for trails development at the Town Council meeting on Wed., Sept. 5. Ms Medeiros was in attendance. Mr. Ed O'Brien gave a copy of his map to the Cumberland Library, which will be framed and also posted on the library's website. Mr. Crawley will be submitting grant applications to the DEM on behalf the town and offered to partner with Mr. Morrissey on applications for grants as funding sources for trail maintenance and signage.

Emerson property – Dr. Gettinger reported that he has communicated with Lisa Primiano, Deputy Chief in the Division of Planning and Development at the Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM). She informed him that the DEM has hired an engineering company to evaluate three potential trail heads and parking areas.

A subcommittee has been charged with drawing up a draft of a Management Plan for this property. Ms Medeiros and Mr. Lang volunteered to be members of the committee.

Franklin Farm – Ms Guerin reported that the Town has initiated a project to determine viable well sites in order to increase the supply of water in the town, which in turn will decrease costs for residents. The Franklin Farm is one of five sites that are being tested. She is a member of a Franklin Farm subcommittee which is evaluating pros and cons of a potential well on the property and will keep the CCC informed of developments.

New Business

Bike Clubs and Vandalism – Dr. Gettinger showed photos that he took of a large tree that was recently defaced with a bright orange painted arrow. The suspected group responsible is a bike club from Massachusetts. Dr. Gettinger will follow up with a complaint to the Police Department about the vandalism.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. Guerin

Secretary