**Orford Conservation Commission (OCC)**

**FINAL Meeting Minutes: October 18, 2018**

Present: Ted Cooley (Chair), Carl Schmidt, Jeff MacQueen, Emily Bryant(alternate), Tom Bubolz, Craig Putnam, Paul Goundrey (alternate), Fran Plaisted (Secretary, alternate), and David Smith (Selectboard liaison), John Miller, Diane Gildersleeve

Meeting was called to order at 7:01

1. Minutes of 9/20/18: Minor issues w/ minutes typos changed. Ted made a motion to accept minutes as modified. Tom seconded. Motion carried.
2. Reports: Three regional planning commissions – UVLSRPC (ours), TRORC, SWCRPC -- are joining together to do a housing needs assessment starting this year and going into next year. It will cost $20,000; they are still raising funds.
3. No water testing to report for last month.
4. Tom Bubolz made a motion to request $ 1900 for our next yearly budget, Jeff seconded. Motion carried.
5. Jacobs Brook Subcommittee update-
   * We were waiting for a response from Shane Csiki of NH DES. He sent an emailon 10/17.He went to the Silver Jackets Meeting on 10/2 regarding the issues. They are aware of the issues with Orford and we are on their radar.
   * Carl reported from the Upper Valley Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions about the preliminary proposal that Jim Kennedy submitted to the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund. It was determined that it was not strong enough to merit going forward with it. Now we need to turn to the Mitigation and Enhancement Fund (MEF). They have a deadline of 1/10/19 for a preliminary concept proposal. Then you do a detailed application. Jim is looking to Ron Rhodes to do a proposal to MEF. This would be about the banks (terracing and planting native species), not the stream -- a rough estimate is $30,000.. Ted sent an email to Ron Rhodes but has not heard back.
   * A culvert inventory of the town was done earlier. It included just location of culverts. Emily has the digital map with the watersheds and the culvert location. She contacted Upper Valley Lake Sunapee- about culvert inventory. Standardized culvert inventory would allow us to apply for grants after the assessment is done. Cost for the town of Lyme was $21,000 and their share was $10,500. Could we use the Conservation Fund for a culvert inventory? We will check with NH Association of Conservation Commissions about this. Emily will continue researching this. We will obtain costs and what needs to be done. Dave saifd the road wants to do more with long-range planning and this would fit in.
6. Carl, Craig, John and Emily are going to the Upper Valley Adaption Workgroup’s public forum: “Drought and Downpours - Managing for Extremes” on 10/30/18 from 4:30pm to 8:15.
7. Dave updated on DES, not having time to deal with Orford yet.
8. Diane- 4 to 6 weeks ago. Sawyer Brook – there was an excavator down on the brook. DES came out and looked but did not want assistance from us. 2 other smaller pieces of equipment were there. They built a dike with a road on top of it. House has been flooded three times. Channel has been changed, digging in the channel. Removed the vegetation -- how will that impact the residents downstream. Normally the OCC is notified when there is a DES violation/permit, but we have not seen a permit.
9. John Miller provided update on the status of the culvert on Orfordville Rd.
10. Jeff provided invoices from Alan Dyke for mowing for 9/18. Tom made a motion to pay $120 for the invoices; Ted seconded. Motioned carried.
11. Ted Cooley made a motion to ask the Select Board to appoint John Miller as a regular OCC member until 2020. Carl seconded. Motion carried.
12. Ted asked that we start working on the Natural Resources Inventory.
13. Ted gave an update on easements from Meg Chapman of the Upper Valley Land Trust. We are looking at an overlay to get easements on another piece of land. Looking for creative ways to resolve the issue.
14. Ted made a motion to go into closed session. RSA: 91-A Section L - consideration of legal issues. Roll Call Vote: 8:07pm. In favor: Craig, Carl, Dave, Tom Diane, Fran, Paul, Jeff, Emily and Ted Opposed: none.
15. 8:16pm: Ted made a motion to leave the closed session, Tom seconded. Roll call vote taken: In favor: Craig, Carl, Dave, Tom Diane, Fran, Paul, Jeff, Emily and Ted. Opposed: none.
16. Dave reported that there was a beaver dam problem on Archertown Rd. The Select Board is contacting NH Fish and Game.
17. Carl S. Provided a copy of the Homeowners Guide to Water Quality Protection in the CT. River Valley. Copies are available at the libraries. We will publish the link to this on the listserv
18. Discussed newsletter.
19. Annual monitoring of the Richardson/Schwaegler conservation easement on Piermont Heights Rd. Jeff will post the date/ time of the monitoring.
20. Emily has map culvert and watersheds map.
21. Perambulation of the town lines: Chase Kling is doing this if anyone wants to participate.
22. Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:34pm. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Plaisted

Revisions by Emily Bryant