

Conservation Land Review Committee
September 29, 2011

Attended: Gary Langenbach, Pine duBois, Dick Aruda, Sue Chamberlain,
The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.
Mark Guidoboni arrived at 7:20 p.m.

The Wager property which abuts Camp Nekon was donated to the town. We would also like to advance the possibility of annexing the Ardelia Pratt property. Dick Aruda will talk to Jim Judge about a possible taking.

The signs forbidding ATV use on the property were put up in April. One was ripped down right away. The gate is also too easy to open. A lock box is needed for the gate. Dick will talk with John Bonomi about putting one on the gate.

Jim Thomas is the new Town Administrator. He is from Rhode Island.

CAMP NEKON DISCUSSION

There was discussion about the T.L. Edwards access road to Camp Nekon. This access was requested due to the transfer of a piece of the Nekon land to T. L. Edwards by P.A. Landers when P.A. Landers sold the property to Edwards. Right now there is no easement for utilities or emergencies. The piece being discussed is on Map 89, lot 6 when owned by P.A. Landers. Dick will talk to the sheriff about getting this easement.

The Committee wants to prepare the recommendations for Camp Nekon for the Selectmen.

The following recommendations were discussed and will be added to the Nekon Land Management document.

- 1) A GIS map has been prepared by Wildlands Trust. The area outlined in blue on the GIS map, designating the area around the Smelt Pond beach and cabins, will be managed by Recreation in addition to the Offal Pits, which were assigned to Recreation in the late 90's by Town Meeting (for potential ball fields). The area in green will be managed by Conservation for natural resource protection and maintenance as recommended in the Forest Management Plan. The area in yellow will remain municipal land for beneficial uses.
- 2) Management, maintenance, and use of the property would be more manageable if the Selectmen considered a Natural Resources Manager position to care for this and all of Kingston's open spaces.
- 3) The following lands should be addresses and annexed to Camp Nekon if possible:

- a) Ardelia Pratt parcel
 - b) the easement from Independence Mall Road to the road to the Old Flaxing Place to mitigate the piece of Town Land appropriated by PA Landers;
 - c) land offered to Kingston by Mass Highway when Rt. 44 was being built. We turned it down but should reclaim it
- 4) Additional Management, Maintenance and Proposed Use (even without a manager) Recommendations:
- a) Establish a process for implementing the recommendations of the Forest Management Plan
 - b) Open beach at Smelt Pond and establish regulations for management of Smelt Pond overall including motorboat activity and control of invasives.
 - c) Improve and maintain trails through out Camp Nekon for walking and biking. Mark trails for types of uses.
 - d) Control and maintain signs and restore previously damaged areas by ORV's (off road vehicles).
 - e) Create a camping management plan for group requests in the recreation designated area.
 - f) Develop guidelines for hunting
 - g) Established community-based "Friends of Camp Nekon" to help keep the area attractive and well used.

Nekon Tasks:

Gary: Talk to Marilyn at Wildlands Trust about changes to GIS Map of the various designated areas. Add area under forest management and Wager property.

Dick will ask Nancy about the TL Edwards property

Dick: Will check on the eminent domain possibility for Pratt property

Sue: will add the recommendations to the Camp Nekon plan and send to committee members for comment, changes, etc. so the plan can be approved at the next meeting of the Conservation Land Review Committee.

Sampson Park Tasks:

Gary: Send out Sampson Park Plan – and Faunce Memorial Forest (given in the 50's) Check to see if Water Department owns some – see who has management.

Pine: to check the old open space plan

Mark: if time permits will find deeds for Faunce Memorial and Sampson Park – we won't do it if it is mostly under Water Dept. management.

Other Tasks:

The Committee would like the selection for this committee changed from “members” of certain town committees and boards to “designee” by these town committees or boards. The make up is as follows:

2 from Open Space, 2 from Cons Com, 1 from Ag, 1 from Selectmen, 1 from Recreation.

Dick will talk to Selectmen about this

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting will be held October 27 at 7 p.m.