

Minutes of the Conservation Land Review Committee
April 29, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Attended: Gary Langenbach, Chairman, Pine duBois, Barry Mathias, Mark Guidoboni, and Sue Chamberlain.

Discussion as follows on Camp Nekon property issues:

Report from Pine: re ATV use of Camp Nekon

Pine reported on her conversation with Andy Backman, Director of Resource Management Planning at DCR. He urged persistence and a combination of pressure on the Environmental Police and the park rangers to help with the problem of ATV abuse of Camp Nekon. After discussing several options, the committee decided to contact the Town Administrator and the Chief of Police to discuss the best route to take to get action on the problem. Andy Backman recommended the following approach: on the parks side, officially notify them through Steve Ouelette, the regional parks manager for this area stationed at Myles Standish State Forest and Brian Shanahan, supervisor of all of the state park rangers. The Environmental Police (EPO) need to be involved as well since it has authority over the state forest. The best way to engage them is to contact Senator Terry Murray and Representative Tom Calter to have them talk to Ian Bowles, Secretary of Environmental Affairs.

Gary and Pine to collaborate on writing the memo to Town Administrator to set up a meeting to discuss this problem and find solutions

Two models of surveillance camera were researched. Due to the high cost of these cameras, it was suggested that when members of the Conservation Lands Committee meet with Chief of Police and the Town Administrator they should also discuss possibly renting the cameras through the police department for surveillance for Camp Nekon. It is hoped that the Board of Selectmen will consider paying to have the police monitor some of the hot spots at Camp Nekon. Fire officials could also monitor when they are in the forest doing practice or brush clearing. Cameras might be placed near the area of the kiosk sign where the glass was recently destroyed. Also at the tunnel under Rt. 44.

Gary and Pine to include this in the discussion with Town Administrator and Police Chief.

ATV use has continued unabated. They enter from several access points including: the parking lot, the tunnel under 44 and Raboth Road.

Using USDA maps, Pine also brought in the linear footage of Camp Nekon frontage on Smelt Pond which is approximately 3600 LF

Report from Gary:

He brought topo and aerial maps which show most of Camp Nekon, all of the State Forest and Smelt Pond. These will be used in discussions with the Town Administrator and Chief of Police.

Hot spots included were:

- Tunnel under Rt. 44
- Rt. 80 – Carter Boggs
- Trackle Pond
- Behind Wolf Pond
- Muddy Pond
- (and the gate area and Rocky Pond)

Pine will get GIS coordinates for the hot spots.

Other issues discussed:

Staying on top of the transfer of the Bernstein property to the Division of Capital Asset Management – not sure if it has been done yet – no record so far.

The need for an official by-law to address penalties for destruction of town property. **Sue** will bring a copy of the by-laws to the next meeting.

Sampson Fund and Forest Management Plan. Conservation Commission received the funds. Selectmen have the final say on the property. A memo will be sent to the Town Administrator to for the Selectmen explaining the following

- Cons. Land Review is working on a management plan for Camp Nekon

- Want permission to hire a forester to carry out a forest management plan

- Funding from the Sampson Fund was approved for this purpose

- We have a reasonable estimate and want to hire Austin Mason

- We can get a forest management plan which will cost \$2,846 but want to also do bounds.

Barry will ask Austin if there is any way we can get the bounds done too – or at least some of them. Are there other funds available to finish the work of marking the boundaries?

Mark will obtain the Camp Nekon deed information.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Sue Chamberlain

Next meeting is May 27, 2009 at 7 p.m.