

## Conservation Land Review Committee

July 29, 2009

Attended: Dick Arruda, Gary Langenbach, Pine duBois, Mark Guidoboni, Sue Chamberlain

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Barry Mathias joined the group after the Agriculture Committee meeting at 8:20 p.m.

### FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Gary reviewed the Forest Management Plan project and funding. There are grants available from DCR – we are applying for two: one for Camp Nekon and one for Sampson Memorial Park. Pine recommended that a statement of purpose be incorporated into the Forest Management Plan: To improve the health of the forest and preserve biodiversity. It was understood that there will be a recreation component and that the purpose of the plan would not be to maximize a timber operation.

The Open Space Committee voted in June to encumber \$2,200 of last year's funds for helping to find the bounds of Camp Nekon. The decision was made to hire engineer and licensed surveyor, Bob Sgarzi, to research the boundary between P.A. Landers and Camp Nekon due to discrepancy between the Land Court Plan on file and the Assessors Map. He will research the line, put in bounds and conduct line of site cutting.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To accept the offer of the Open Space Committee to determine the boundary between P.A. Landers property and Camp Nekon and utilize the funding voted in June to hire Bob Sgarzi to carry out the terms of work outlined in his letter of June 24, 2009.

### NEWS:

A woman bordering both Little Smelt Pond and Smelt Pond is planning on selling her property. She is considering alternatives for two of her five acres which provide a corridor between the two ponds. Nothing has been decided yet; she is just exploring options. The lot is on Map 89, lot 10.

### SIGNS

Signs need to be prepared that include: "per order of the Board of Selectmen, in accordance with Article ? of the Mass General Laws and Article ? of the Town of Kingston By-Laws." Need to include that violators will be prosecuted. Do not name motor vehicles – just say "all unauthorized motorized vehicles" Need to double check language with the Town Counsel for the exact language to use.

## SMELT POND

The Thorndike development is currently under review. They are looking at the overall hydrology of their site as well as the quality of the pond. They will want to make improvements due to the weed and water quality problems. Pond levels are affected by Smelt Brook drawdown as well for the town well and Thorndike is planning to help recharge Smelt Brook.

Smelt Pond is defined by size as a “great pond” and therefore property of the Commonwealth. We need to find out the limits of DCR jurisdiction and also the potential for grants to create a pond management plan. Getting an expert opinion and nailing down what we can do to improve the management of the pond would be very useful since this pond is affected by the town water supply controls.

### ACTIONS

**Gary:** Work with Maureen on the DCR grant applications for Nekon and Sampson.

**Dick:** Talk to someone about notifying P.A. Landers that we are looking at the boundary line between his land and Camp Nekon

Give a brief update on the committee to the Selectmen about the Forest Management Plan and the Boundary work

Ask Town Administrator to get sign language clarified by Town Council

**Pine:** Write or talk to Geisinger to see if he has any new or updated maps of Smelt Pond and/or Camp Nekon

**Sue:** Try to get application for DCR grant into Word format  
Bring copies of latest Camp Nekon Plan for committee at next meeting  
Send Dick past copies of minutes and Cranberry Preserve Management Plan  
Find out about DCR and COLAP \* potential grants for ponds.

\*Congress of Lakes and Ponds

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next meeting is set for August 26 at 7 p.m.

Submitted by:

Sue Chamberlain