

Lebanon Conservation and Agriculture Commission
Regular meeting, 6/2/14
Minutes

Call to order, 4:34 p.m. by Marc Lang.

Members present: Marc Lang, Oliver Manning, Jon Slate, Emery Gluck, Jan Fitter, Keith Laporte, Howard Wayland, (4:45)

Members absent: Paul Trubey, Alton Blodgett, Toni Willard, Alyna Stober

Also present: Town Planner Phil Chester, Bill Ingalls, Dennis Latchum

Motion (HW) to approve minutes of 4/7/14 meeting with correction from Wayne to Lance Magnuson; seconded (JS) and approved unanimously.

Motion (JF) to adopt so-called May Discussion Notes herein as Appendix 6/14; seconded (OM) and approved unanimously

Motion (JF) to recommend that the Board of Selectmen authorize appraisals on properties 14-C and 14-D; seconded (HW) and passed unanimously.

Motion (JF) to recommend that the Board of Selectmen authorize trying to get DEEP interested in acquiring the Prince Hall property to add to the Bartlett Brook WMA; seconded (JS) and passed unanimously.

Motion to endorse the Grabber preservation with town purchase of easement on 4-acre roadside field plus a forest buffer in the 50-acre piece excluded from the PDR easement, with appraisals; seconded (HW) and passed unanimously.

We are scrubbing the inscription on Five-Mile Rock with water and plastic.

Bid for landfill: The commission is concerned about use of heavy equipment on the landfill cap and the potential effect on the environment. We recommend that the selectmen refrain from leasing the landfill cap area for such use.

Bid for cemetery: We recommend that the bid be for two years with option to renew with reduced acreage, subject to needs of cemetery work.

Bid for senior center: Subject to the needs of work on possible senior housing, we recommend that the selectmen consider a two-year bid.

Bill Ingalls updated us on the Schleicher property on Kick Hill Road; the transfer has not taken place. Stephanie Clark has resigned as director of JT and is now conservation coordinator.

Motion (multiple) to adjourn at 5:34; seconded (multiple), unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Fitter, Sec'y

Appendix 6/14
Lebanon Conservation and Agriculture Commission
May Discussion Notes

Christian Joseph talked to us about sampling at three sites on Pease Brook and two on Hoxie Brook. Nitrates and phosphates were slightly elevated but still well below levels considered polluting. Pride's is working on bettering their controls to lower levels to the minimum. Christian also shared plans for their new central office building on the same site as the current one – designed to fit agricultural heritage.

Properties 14-C and 14-D were rated (to go into the record at the next meeting):
14-C: 90 acres, 18 points; 14-D, 18 points.

Phil reported that McCaw has closed (after 3 years) and distributed copies of the DEEP natural diversity data base map.

The fall 2014 newsletter has to be ready before November. Bill will write a contribution about JT.

ConnDOT is applying for scenic road status for Rtes. 207 and 87 in their entirety. We'll need to provide a letter of support.

Brandon's report on tree removal for site lines was discussed. Agreement to table this issue.

Discussion of changes in federal grant program under new farm bill. Will find out what's up with Anderson ag. baseline report.

Old landfill cap: Marc questioned the impact on the cap of heavy harvesting (hay chopping) equipment. Better to manage as grassland conservation area with only mowing/bush-hogging? We need to investigate what the capper recommends. Meanwhile, Marc needs to talk to the selectmen about town-leased ag. land bidding and this issue.

