

**BRUNSWICK CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JULY 11, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Kurt Stinson, Amanda Bunker, Jason Coombs and Amanda Mahaffey

STAFF PRESENT: Kris Hultgren

A meeting of the Brunswick Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at Brunswick Station, Suite 202. Chairman Kurt Stinson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes: June, 16, 12

MOTION BY AMANDA BUNKER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2012. SECONDED BY JASON COOMBS, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY THOSE PRESENT.

2. Conservation Commission Activities

a) Brunswick Landing

RTOS Management Plan Stakeholders Advisory Group Update (Kurt Stinson):

- Conveyance update (Denise Clavette): Postponed to August meeting. Kurt reviewed notes provided by Denise and stated that:
 - Rec 7, located below and south of the airport runway is at roughly 640 acres under ongoing environmental observation. The larger portion of the conveyance is expected to be transferred to the National Parks Service and then to the town by end of 2012.
 - Some parcels to the northwest corner of the runway have already been conveyed to the National Parks Service and deeds have been drafted; expected to be conveyed to the town by September 2012.
 - RTOS Management Plan Stakeholders Advisory Group has been meeting monthly; the trails group has been working on proposed trails and a perimeter trail with the goal being to have a draft management report by the end of 2012.

- Observation from 66 acre site walk (Captain Fitzgerald Park formerly the radar site) Kurt stated that members from the Conservation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Town Councilors and a few abutters spent several hours out touring and noting observations. Kurt and Jason Coombs reviewed their findings and agreed that the area is being reclaimed by overgrown trees. Amanda Bunker asked if Steve Walker from

IF&W if he could give the Committee an overview of the things that they may need to be mindful of. Steve reviewed what the Maine Natural Heritage Program was; a plant community. He stated that what is located on this site is little blue stem low bush blueberry sandplain grassland and the entirety of the open land has been mapped as such by the Maine Natural Areas Program. Steve stated that little blue stem low bush blueberry sandplain grassland are ranked rarest in the State of Maine; S1 which is State Critically Imperiled and a candidate for global ranking. Steve reviewed what makes this land so rare and stated that they should take a good look at management and planning. Steve stated that in the short term, a controlled burn in this location is something to think about.

b) Public Education

- Brief on properties selected for IF&W signage (Steve Walker): Steve Walker reviewed how this project came along and stated that IF&W, the Casco Bay Estuary Program and the Town of Brunswick are in communications to make proposed signage consistent in message and appearance. The hope is that these signs will be located at the Mere Point Boat Launch, the head of Maquoit, Adams Road, Simpsons Point, Sawyer, Maquoit Bay Conservation land off of Bunganuc Road, and possibly something at the new Naval Air Station Land by the salt marsh and potentially the New Meadows River. Steve reviewed what they hoped would be on each sign and stated that they will keep the Committee updated on the progress. Amanda Bunker asked what the timeline was for installing the signs in the ground; Steve replied that they hope to install the signs in July 2013.

c) Natural Resource Inventory and Planning:

- Androscoggin River Corridor properties/schedule visits (Kris Hultgren) Kurt Stinson reviewed the maps requested for the Androscoggin River Corridor as requested and suggested that the Committee choose one or two locations to go out and begin the process

MOTION BY AMANDA BUNKER TO SURVEY IN THE LARGER GROUP, AREA 15-7. SECONDED BY AMANDA MAHAFFEY.

d) Subcommittee Updates

- Kurt Stinson stated the Outreach Committee has not met since the last meeting. Amanda Bunker stated that the Public Relations Committee has talked a lot about web presence, more specifically Facebook. The subcommittee also discussed other media options such as press releases and combining efforts at other events within the Town.

3. Other Business

a) Next Business Meeting – August 8, 2012

b) Androscoggin Bicycle Path Grant Application to MDOT: Kurt Stinson reviewed the letter of support that would accompany the grant application. Amanda Bunker suggested under quality of life that it state “Residents of Brunswick, Town of Brunswick and the Region”. Amanda, after discussion, stated that she was OK with the wording due to time constraints.

MOTION BY AMANDA MAHAFFEY TO SUPPORT THE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE ANDROSCOGGIN BRUNSWICK TOPSHAM RIVER WALK GRANT APPLICATION TO MDOT AS IS. SECONDED BY JASON COOMBS, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

c) Kurt Stinson stated that the Conservation Commission received an Award of Recognition from the Maine Chapter of Wildlife Society.

4. MOTION BY AMANDA MAHAFFEY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. SECONDED BY JASON COOMBS, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.

Attest:



Tonya Jenusaitis
Recording Secretary