

**BRUNSWICK CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MARCH 11, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Amanda Bunker, Vice Chair Kurt Stinson, Stephen Cohen  
Tom Rumpf

**STAFF PRESENT:** Director of Planning and Development, Anna Breinich

A meeting of the Brunswick Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 in Council Chambers, 85 Union Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. Chair Amanda Bunker called the meeting to order at 4:30P.M.

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

a) February 11, 2015

**MOTION BY KURT STINSON TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 11, 2015 MINUTES AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY STEPHEN COHEN, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AMONG THOSE PRESENT.**

**3. Conservation Commission Activities**

a) Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust overview of current projects and goals.

Angela Twitchell discussed some of the BTLT land acquisition priorities such as: Middle Bay and Maquoit Bay, the Androscoggin and New Meadows Rivers, active and good farmland soils, securing access (shell fisherman and recreation), trail connection and large habitat blocks. Angela said that in other collaborations with the Town, they have prioritized Millers Creek and the John's Point easement and are working on the Coombs property along the Androscoggin River and they hope that in the future they can connect the Coombs parcel with the Coffin Pond parcel that the Town owns. Angela said that BTLT is working on trail work at the Kate Furbish Preserve and they have been meeting with the Recreation Commission on creating a recreation access map. Angela said that communication between the two Committees has improved with Amanda Bunker joining the BTLT.

Kurt Stinson agreed that having Amanda Bunker serving dual roles has increased communications and asked about the John's Point easement. Angela Twitchell replied that they hope to have the easement conceptually agreed upon by the fall. Anna Breinich added that the easement property owner is requesting a shoreline stabilization projects as there is significant erosion occurring on a bluff area in Middle Bay before there would be any transfer. Tom Rumpf discussed shoreline erosion and stated that hardening of the shore is not a long term or ecological solution. Amanda Bunker suggested that the shoreline language be reviewed by the

Marine Warden, Dan Devereaux and the Marine Resources Commission. Angela Twitchell noted that the discussions regarding the shoreline are separate from the BTLT while the Town still holds the easement. Angela discussed other easement changes that they are trying to make and stated that BTLT is working to better define the development area and the conservation area while being careful to increase the conservation area.

Amanda Bunker suggested that the BTLT coordinate with Marine Resources Commission and the new Rivers and Coastal Waters Commission. Angela Twitchell agreed and said that she does reach out to Dan Devereaux, but will reach out to the RCWC as well.

Caroline Eliot discussed stewardship and stewardship practices mainly on fee properties as Amanda Bunker pointed out that the Town easement properties are reviewed mostly by staff. Amanda said that there is an established process for the easements, but that there are no requirements or expectations on fee ownerships. Caroline discussed how the BTLT approaches their properties and said that a really important element is identifying and developing standardized forms and creating an inventory. Caroline said that most of the issues that arise tend to come from the neighbors. Angela stated that BTLT has adopted a policy that each property has a management plan that sets out basic management for the property. Caroline reviewed what BTLT includes in their management plan and added that they assign one person to each property which allows them to have one person who really knows that property; they have found that this works really well. Caroline stated that another important element is public communication and education as it lets people know what appropriate uses are on that property. Caroline emphasized that it is important to keep good records and marking boundaries. Caroline discussed the easement notification process per Tom Rumpf's request and said that it is important to keep good communication between the landowners and the BTLT.

b) Coordination & Communications

- Adoption of 2015 goals and objectives: Amanda Bunker reviewed some minor changes that she has made and added.

**MOTION BY KURT STINSON TO APPROVE THE MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY TOM RUMPF, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- Adoption of 2014 annual report: Amanda Bunker reviewed some minor changes that were made.

**MOTION BY KURT STINSON TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF THE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT PENDING THE CONFIRMATION OF DAMARIN LANE. SECONDED BY STEPHEN COHEN, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- Captain Fitzgerald Park update, management plan review: Amanda Bunker noted that in the back of the Captain Fitzgerald Management Plan, the plan calls for the Conservation Commission to monitor the habitat annually.

Tom Farrell, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that the Captain Fitzgerald Management Plan will be going before the Town Council on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Tom stated that they hoped to allow for tree removal followed by a prescriptive burn in the spring, but are now looking at removal of undesirable trees with a fall burn. Tom said that they have been awarded a Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund grant for the tree removal, but the timetable was before June 30<sup>th</sup>; Tom will be submitting a request for extension. Tom discussed some potential issues that will need to be tended to prior to a prescriptive burn and discussions with the Fire Chief.

- SWAP presentation: Presentation to be scheduled for March 31, 2015.

c) Council follow-up from February 5th

- Discuss possible short-term action items, for Council feedback: What items does the Commission want to go back to the Council and discuss at future meetings?

d) Mare Brook watershed management plan proposal: Please review as attached in the packet materials.

e) Proposed changes to Land Care Ordinance: Per Steve Walker's request, he is asking that the Commission review in respect to herbicide/pesticide use for invasive species control.

#### 4. Adjourn

This meeting was adjourned at 5:51 P.M.

Attest:



Tonya Jenusaitis  
Recording Secretary

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE ACTION MINUTES. THE ENTIRE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED AT [WWW.BRUNSWICKME.ORG](http://WWW.BRUNSWICKME.ORG).**