

Calais Conservation Minutes July 10

Present: Steve Cusick, Drew Lamb, Jennifer Whitman, Pam DeAndrea, Julie Hand. Stephanie Kaplan, John Binhammer, (Virginia Clammer).

Meeting began 7:05pm

John Binhammer – Nature Conservancy, Chickering Bog expansion.

The Nature Conservancy hopes to buy 108 acres to expand the size of 134 acre Chickering Bog Natural area This would bring the total protected land to 242 acres. John approached the CCC asking for a \$15,000 disbursement from the Calais Conservation Fund to complete the project, also to recommend the project to the Selectboard. The funding and support were voted and o moved unanimously.

Moved to go into Executive session to discuss real estate matter
Voted out of executive session.

June minutes approved as amended.

Calais Conservation Fund as of 6/28/13 \$82, 288.01

Natural Resources Section of the Town Plan

It will be critical to protect sensitive areas from the coming expansion in Calais. Planning Commission did not approve of the plan we submitted. It is critical to integrate a Natural Resources section into the town plan to protect sensitive areas from development. The Calais Planning Commission did not accept the NR section of the town plan that we proposed. We need to work out a strategy with the Planning Commission to get out proposed NR section approved.

Village Center Designation

For a Natural Resource Inventory, we need a grant from Department of Economic, Housing and Community Development. A Village Center Designation would improve Calais' chances for attaining such a grant. . Steve and Drew will divide tasks needed in application, and give Planning Commission specific PC-related tasks needed in the Village Center application.

Poor Fen Update – no update to report.

Virginia Clapper – re Lake Wise Program in state. Educates owners with lakeside/streamside property the need to buffer ponds and streams with specific setbacks. Plaques given to those areas that meet guidelines. Current zoning specific to new developments not existing properties. We wondered why DRB approved large clear cut on #10 Pond.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm

