

DRAFT
Calais Conservation Commission Minutes
2/16/2015 - Calais town office

Present: Stephanie Kaplan, Julie Hand, Drew Lamb, Jan Brough, Neal Maker (recorder)

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm.
- December meeting minutes were discussed and approved.
- The conservation fund's balance was recorded at \$76,789.51 as of January 30.

- Town Plan
 - Discussed the changes the Planning Commission made to the Natural Resources section of the Town Plan after it had been finalized by the Conservation Commission and representatives of the Planning Commission and Selectboard.
 - Voted to endorse the formerly agreed upon Natural Resources section draft and recommend it to the Selectboard. Stephanie will send a copy of that draft to the Selectboard, along with copies of the Common Plans of Action and Regulatory Implementation subsections showing specific changes made by the Planning Commission, and a letter explaining why we prefer the former versions.
 - Stephanie reported on the changes Grant would like to see made to the Groundwater section of the Town Plan, which he has been working on with the Planning Commission. She will write a letter to the Planning Commission describing those changes so they can be incorporated.

- Bliss Forest Management Plan
 - The Forestry Group reported on their January meeting. They have begun revising the 2014 Bliss Forest management plan, which was written by Emily Potter. They will incorporate some sections from the older, 2004 Conservation Commission plan to better outline the town's goals and objectives for the forest and will delineate part of the forest to be set aside as a preserve. Neal and Jan plan to visit the forest in the spring before they complete the revisions.
 - Stephanie suggested scheduling a public hearing to get feedback on the plan, and members of the Forestry Group agreed. The hearing will be scheduled once the group has completed their revisions.

- Other business
 - Stephanie agreed to talk with Pam about the Commission's Town Meeting presence. They will speak at Meeting about requests for the natural resources inventory and conservation fund.
 - Action Steps in the Town Plan should be discussed at the next meeting, when all members are present.

- The next meeting is scheduled for March 4th at 7:00 pm at the town office.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.