

APPROVED

Calais Conservation Commission Minutes—June 12, 2013

CCC members present: Steve Cusick, Drew Lamb, Pam DeAndrea, Jennifer Whitman, Julie Hand, Stephanie Kaplan (recorder).

The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. at the Calais Town Office

Minutes: Minutes from May 2013 were approved.

Conservation Fund Report: The CF balance as of May 31, 2013 was \$82,274.49.

Adamant road issues: Steve and Stephanie explained that many Calais residents were upset that the road commissioner had marked 70 trees on the Adamant road for removal, and many people went to the Selectboard to express their unhappiness with the way the roads in Calais are being maintained that is ruining the rural character of the town. The Selectboard, responding to residents' concerns, appointed a Roads Advisory Committee. Stephanie volunteered to be on the Committee. The rest of the CCC agreed that the roads in town need to be maintained with more sensitivity to the character of Calais and also to prevent stormwater runoff into our lakes and streams, and asked Stephanie to represent the CCC's interests as well as her own.

Calais Poor Fen: Steve had been authorized by the CCC to go to the ANR reclassification hearing to say that the Commission supports the maximum protection for the wetland. At the hearing, ANR presented a new buffer that was larger than the previous buffer that had been delineated by Eric Sorenson as adequate to protect the fen. There is now some concern about ANR's buffer among the Selectboard and some of the parties. The reclassification process has been put on hold pending additional information that the town was going to provide. Stephanie will continue monitoring the situation and representing the CCC.

Land Conservation Project: The members voted unanimously to go into Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter. They then voted to go out of Executive Session. No action was taken.

Beaver Baffles: Drew went to a meeting to discuss the beaver baffles. Apparently during very low water in May there was siphoning through the baffles and the lower area of the pond was getting low. Nobody had ever seen this happen before. A hole was drilled in the baffle to remove the siphon and that problem seems to be resolved. One baffle was showing and needs more weight to keep it down.

Calais Town Plan – Natural Resources section: Stephanie described the work that had been done to bring the more recent members up to speed. She agreed to send copies of the latest version to everyone for discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.