

Calais Conservation Commission minutes, August 8, 2012

Meeting was held at 7 p.m. in the Town Clerk's office.

Present - Steve Cusick, Drew Lamb (minutes), Stephanie Kaplan, Pam DeAndrea, Noreen Bryan

Minutes – Minutes of July 11, 2012 meeting were read and approved.

Conservation Fund - Now kept in TD Bank money market account with interest rate of 0.2%. Fund stands at \$76,126.92. Steve was not certain if this was correct number – will check with Denise to be certain.

Natural Resources Inventory – Pam has been working with Wendy from Department of Economic Housing and Community Development on NRI grant. Grant amount is for \$15,000. Applicant must provide \$3500 to fulfill the \$15k grant, yielding a total of \$18,500. Proposal should be for \$18,500 to receive the full \$15k for the project. Generally understood that the more cash provided by the applicant, the more likely the funding agency is to fund proposal. Steve will send Pam copy of “build-out” proposal from planning commission to help word and write the NRI proposal. Consulting firms should be contacted to get estimates/bids for inventory. Two mentioned – Bear Creek Environmental and Arrowhead. Need to get ideas for cost for budget proposal. Pam will contact Woodstock, Dummerston, and Mad River Valley, to see if they will send NRI budgets. Proposal is due on Sep 28. Must be shared with select board by end of August or early September. If funds are provided, needs to be determined how the funds are distributed and when. Concern is that if funds are not provided until after invoicing, where will the money come from in the interim?

Town Forest Plan – Forest plan has been done for the Bliss town forest, but has not been completed for the Chapin town forest, or the forest adjacent to the town clerk's office. Eric Sorenson began work on the Chapin forest but did not complete it. Stephanie will contact Jan Brough, Eric, and Drew to try and make progress on the Chapin forest plan.

Potential Real Estate Deal – Purchase and sale agreement proposal going before selectboard on 8/13.

Fall Foliage Paddle – Paddle on the Adamant pond, sponsored by the CCC. Steve will ask Susan Warren (from state lakes and ponds commission) to join group. Steve will check with landowners for permission to launch boats.

Lakes and Streams – Noreen will start to post meeting dates. As part of grant, committee must present status work and shoreline zoning and regulations/ordinances.

Meeting concluded at 9pm.