

Town of Randolph
Conservation Commission
Draft Minutes of August 25, 2016

Members Present: Bruce Kirmmse (Chairman), Roberta Arbree, Gary Newfield, Jim Hunt and Lauren Bradley (Selectmen's Rep)

Members Excused: Walter Graff and Guy Stever

Others present: John Scarinza

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chairman Kirmmse

Roberta moved that the minutes from the June 23rd be approved. Jim seconded and the motion passed.

Bruce reviewed the recent developments behind the RCC's interest in purchasing an 82 acre parcel on the North side of Durand Rd owned by Chris Hawkins. The land has a very steep slope and the RMC's Lookout Ledge and Notchway trails cross it. The northern boundary borders the Randolph Community Forest. It has Tree Farm status and an updated Forest Management Plan. The purchase price is \$85,000. The RCC will pay the closing costs. There will not be a Real Estate transfer tax. The parcel is in current use and property taxes are about \$70, so there will be little effect on the Town's revenue. In 2017 it is intended the RCC will transfer the parcel to the Randolph Community Forest. John is facilitating the transaction with Chris Hawkins. Chris needs the sale to be completed early in October. Attorney Waugh sent John a sample Purchase and Sale agreement which John will fill out and have Chris and Bruce sign at the beginning of next week.

Jim made a **motion** to allow the RCC to sign a P & S agreement for \$85,000 to purchase Map R12-23 consisting of 82.2 acres, deed recorded Book 836 Page 340 from Chris Hawkins. Gary seconded and all were in favor.

Jim made a **motion** to start a fund raising campaign to raise \$87,000. Gary seconded and all were in favor. \$2,000 was added to the purchase price to cover the legal costs. A large portion of the money has been pledged. The selectmen must approve the purchase and their next meeting is Sept 12th. A public hearing is also required. It was suggested the hearing be Sept 15th.

Roberta expressed concern about having regularly scheduled meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month since many of our meetings would be canceled and this requires posting a cancellation notice.

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The consensus was to continue with the regular schedule. Jim offered to be in charge of posting meeting notices, cancellations and public hearings and also contacting Michelle Lutz.

The Clarke land transfer is complete. The Town should merge this 1 acre lot into the town owned Durand recreation area. There is no need to have a warrant article transferring it from RCC to the town.

Elise Lawson does not have the required liability insurance to start the Moose River study yet. There is a plan is for her to be a contractor of LandVest but nothing is confirmed yet.

Lauren reminded us that Walter Graff needs to be a member of the RCC to be their representative to the Community Forest.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Arbree