

1 Canterbury Conservation Commission

2 Canterbury, NH

3 Draft Minutes of May 9, 2024

4 Present: Kelly Short, Bob Steenson, Steve Seron, Audra Klumb, Teresa Wyman, Charlie Comey and Ken  
5 Stern. Beth Blair joined as the Select Board's representative. Cal McKay, the Administrative Assistant  
6 was in attendance.

7 Absent: Lance Messinger

8 The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

9 1. **Approval of April 11, 2024 Minutes-** Draft minutes were circulated by email. Upon motion by  
10 Ken, seconded by Bob, the minutes were approved as amended. Audra and Teresa abstained as  
11 they were not in attendance at the April meeting.

12 2. **Right to Know.** Kal McKay, the town's Administrative Assistant, presented information on the  
13 changes the town has undertaken in order to be covered under the Right to Know laws. The  
14 town will provide each member with an email address to be used for all Conservation  
15 Commission business. June 1<sup>st</sup> is the cut off for members to switch email addresses.

16 3. **Conservation Projects:**

- 17 a. **Deepwood Forest property tour-** A group walk and tour of the Deepwood Forest was held  
18 on Saturday May 4, 2024. About 30 people attended. Big thanks to Ken and Ilene! Everyone  
19 had an enjoyable walk.
- 20 b. **Meadowsend Update-** Ken talked to Brian Hots of the Forest Society who indicated that the  
21 owners are holding out on the easement in order to rent the property to commercial  
22 recreation users.
- 23 c. **Other Potential Projects-** Kelly has asked Mandy for a list of properties over 100 acres.

24 4. **Conservation Easement Monitoring:**

- 25 a. A purchase order has been issued to Emily Landry and Pete Helm for the conservation  
26 easement monitoring. They have the list of all of the properties and Kelly is gathering the  
27 files to give to them.
- 28 b. Brookford Farm Easement. Brookford plans to hold a circus within the 19-acre portion of the  
29 property not included in the conservation easement. The Commission discussed whether  
30 there were any concerns with this proposed activity. The Board of Selectmen will determine  
31 if the circus is allowable within the various restrictions on the property.
- 32 Spurred by this discussion, Kelly suggested the CCC could make a general statement about  
33 occasional non-farm activities on farmland. Bob Steenson moved the following: The  
34 Conservation Commission supports temporary activities that support agricultural  
35 enterprises and have no permanent negative impacts on the land. Steve Setron seconded  
36 the motion and all voted in favor.

37 5. **Property Management**

- 38 a. **Kimball Pond-Beaver Deceiver**

39 The group discussed the culvert that is/was used for the beaver deceiver. It is currently  
40 below the dam, in the woods. Bob suggested a truck to pull it out so that it can get  
41 reinstalled, and will ask Brian Magoon to assist.

42 **b. Kimball Pond – Snowmobile bridge over Burnham Brook**

43 Ken indicated that the span where the bridge was located was pretty wide. Also, there are  
44 now two houses located where the trail crosses Route 132. Due to the uncertainty of land  
45 owner permission and the significant cost and amount of work, the snowmobile group will  
46 probably not be interested in replacing the bridge.

47

48 **c. Riverland – Signage improvement project**

49 The subcommittee has edited the signage and regulations for the Riverland. Ken will send  
50 the recommendations to the Select Board for changes. The Commission recommends that  
51 the Riverland gate be unlocked starting May 15.

52 **d. Riverland – Trail enhancements, brush control work day. Boardwalk/sign removal**

53 Eight people helped out with the Riverland brush cleanup on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Subsequently, Ken  
54 met with John O’Connor, the road agent, to discuss removing the brush piles and old  
55 boardwalk at Riverland. He indicated that they are short staffed so it may be some time  
56 before the material is removed.

57 **e. Robert S. Fife Conservation Area-Brush Control Work Day**

58 Brush cleanup was done on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Brush was cut along the stone wall and the rock piles.  
59 Additional brush removal is needed and can be done when folks are available.

60

61 **6. Trails/Stewardship Subcommittee-** The Commission discussed having a subcommittee to  
62 manage the land and trails. Beth and Bob did not feel that the Commission has the time or  
63 people to support a subcommittee. Charlie suggested a trail steward option. Bob indicated that  
64 Canterbury has Cemetery Stewards so the town has a model for this volunteer effort. Kelly  
65 suggested a trail stewards/land stewards group be suggested to the Select Board. Beth  
66 suggested hosting a meeting at the library to show best management practices for land/trail  
67 stewardship

68

69 **7. Permits-**

70 a. Received a notice of a closed file, Land Resources Management File 2021-03650, 24 Battis  
71 Crossing Road, Map 234 Lot 7

72 b. Received a notice that NH Electric Coop will spray herbicides under power lines. Kelly will  
73 track down the relevant maps at the Same Lake House to find out where the spraying would  
74 occur.

75 c. Received a permit application for the Harmony Lane culvert replacement project at the  
76 outlet of Rocky Pond. The old undersized culverts will be replaced with a large box culvert.  
77 The Commission did not have any formal comments on this project.

78

79 **8. Other Business-**

80           There will be no more Zoom meetings offered unless a member cannot attend and would like to  
81           attend via Zoom. The member will need to let Kelly know ahead of time so that she can set up  
82           the meeting.

83           Next meeting will be June 13<sup>th</sup>.

84

85   Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM

86   Respectfully submitted by Audra Klumb