OFFICIAL MINUTES:

Eliot Conservation Commission

Eliot. Maine 03903

OFFICIAL MINUTES: Business Meeting

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Public input:

DATE: May 3, 2017

APPROVED: June 7, 2017

OFFICERS: Chairman: Kimberly Richards Vice chairman: Glenn Crilley

Secretary: vacant Treasurer: vacant

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM at the Eliot Town Hall.

In attendance:

Kimberly Richards, Glenn Crilley, Andrew Laforge. Alternate: Connie Weeks. Guest: Jack Murphy, Richard Peele.

Absent:

Orland McPherson.

Past Minutes: Minutes for February 2, 2017 were approved as amended. Minutes for March 1, 2017

were approved as written. Minutes for April 5, 2017 were approved as written.

Financial report:

A motion was made and approved to submit an invoice to the Town to pay for annual membership dues for the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions in the amount of \$150.00. This will leave a balance of \$250.00 out of our annual budget for Dues & Subscriptions.

Kim will email Great Works Regional Land Trust and inquire about the due date and amount for our membership.

Commission Officer Postions

Kim reminded members once again that there are vacancies for the Secretary and Treasurer positions. She also pointed out that her position as Chair is up this year. She will continue as Chair if no one steps forward to fill the position. Officer positions will not be due to be renewed until the first meeting after the annual Town Meeting. Therefore, position renewals will be scheduled for our July meeting.

It has been requested that the Public Input portion of the regular meetings be moved up in the agenda.

Goodwin Farm

Kim printed a flier that was developed in part by Great Works Regional Land Trust and herself. A suggestion was made to enlarge the font on the map portion. Suggestions were made as to where to distribute the fliers.

The commission voted in favor of printing and distributing the fliers ourselves, and not having them inserted into The Weekly Sentinel. Kim will send the flier to Wendy Rawski to be posted on the Town of Eliot website. Kim will post the flier to the Commission's Facebook page and on Eliotonline.

Kim will ask Jennifer about a site visit to Goodwin Farm. She will find out from Jennifer if we should invite the Board of Selectmen.

Libbey Farm- Kennebunk Savings Bank fund application:

Richard Peele spoke a bit about Libbey Farm and the plans of the property owners. The owners are looking to protect as much of the land as possible. There are about 80 acres total. One portion is the commercial portion (toward Route 236), another portion is a wooded area, and the third portion is the field area closest to State Road. The owners would like the Town of Eliot to pitch in to buy the development rights to the property.

The owners have hired a grant writer, Anna Boudreau, who is looking into grants. Richard Peele is leading a group of concerned citizens who are interested in spreading the word about Libbey Farm and it's importance to the Town of Eliot. He is going to call his list of concerned citizens and encourage them to vote in favor of the upcoming straw poll on the June 13, 2017 referendum asking whether or not residents are in favor of spending tax money to conserve and protect land in town. They will also be asked to support the Goodwin Farm project and to spread the word about both issues.

Kim will ask the Town Manager about how to go about submitting grant applications and whether or not it has to be done by the Board of Selectmen or if the Conservation Commission can do it ourselves.

Fundraising for the Land Bank:

A suggestion was made to check in with the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions to see what other Commissions in Maine do to fund their land banks. The question was raised as to whether or not the Town could put a check box on the Town's property tax bills asking if residents would like to donate any amount to the land bank. Kim will ask whether or not this possible.

Development projects review:

87	The Commission is having a difficult time trying to stay on top of the development and
88	building projects that are being applied for. With the Commission only meeting once a
89	month, it's proven to be difficult trying to get the information to all of the Commission
90	members for review and then to turn in a response in a timely manner. It was asked that
91	Commission members consider what else could be done to make sure that the Planning
92	Board and any other pertinent Town officials receive our feedback. It was suggested to
93	ask the Town Manager for suggestions.
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95	Old business:
96	Nothing to discuss at this time.
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98	Round table:
99	Nothing was shared.
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101	Next meeting:
102	Wednesday June 7, 2017 at 7:00PM at the Eliot Town Hall.
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104	Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.
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106	Respectfully submitted,
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108	Kimberly Richards
109	Chair, ECC
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111	Cc: Eliot Town Clerk, Commission Members, Commission File

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