**OFFICIAL MINUTES:** **DATE: July 6, 2016**
**Eliot Conservation Commission** **APPROVED: August 3, 2016**
**Eliot, Maine 03903**
**OFFICIAL MINUTES: Business Meeting**

**OFFICERS:**
**Chairman: Kimberly Richards**
**Vice chairman: Glenn Crilley**
**Secretary: vacant**
**Treasurer: vacant**

The meeting was called to order at 7:11PM at Eliot Town Hall.

**In attendance:**
Kimberly Richards, Glenn Crilley, Orland McPherson. Alternate Member: Connie Weeks. Guest: Michele Meyer.

Connie will be considered a voting member.

**Absent:**
None.

**Past Minutes:**
Minutes for June were not available. Kim will get them from former Secretary, Valerie Nardone, for approval and submission.

**Financial Report:**
There is no official financial report as there is no Treasurer. There were no changes to the finances.

**Public Input:**
Michele Meyer is interested in possibly joining the Conservation Commission and is attending the meeting to observe.

**Lecture/Guest Speaker Series:**
*Bee Movie* will be shown at the Grange Hall on July 20th along with a discussion about bees with a local beekeeper. Posting to eliotonline should be done more than once about upcoming presentations in order to increase the number of attendees. It was suggested to post in *The Weekly Sentinel.* Connie said she will call to see what is needed to post an announcement there.

The next presentation will be by the York River Wild and Scenic Study Committee. The Committee's public outreach coordinators have agreed to have a presentation in Eliot early in November. The Conservation Commission will use the time at Eliot Festival Day to promote the presentation. Connie will

keep in contact with Rosanne Adams about the possibility of collaborating with the Historical Society to make this a jointly sponsored presentation.

The following presentation will be sometime in the beginning of next year. Some ideas that were offered during brainstorming were solar energy projects for homes and small businesses, wind power, the Mount A to the Sea Initiative, ad Beginning with Habitat's lecture on the importance of wetlands.

**Adopt-a-Road Program:**
The Commission agreed that we should meet with Jim Tessier and/or the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee for potential collaboration since Jim Tessier first approached the Conservation Commission inquiring about whether or not the Adopt-a-Road program still existed. It was decided that instead of Adopt-a-Road, a group of dedicated people would meet at intervals (to be decided upon later) to clean up the sides of roads. There is an interested resident who has said he would donate t-shirts as an incentive for people to donate their time. High school students could be recruited to fulfill their required community service time for graduation. Many details still need to be worked out. Kim will take the first step and speak to Dana Lee (Town Manager) to make sure it's all right to move forward and reach out to Jim Tessier/Solid Waste & Recycling Committee about the project.

**Punkintown easement- info for BOS meeting:**
Dana Lee had emailed specific questions to Kim before requesting that the Conservation Commission be put on an agenda for the BOS. These questions had to do with specifics such as: How much money do we want to spend on this research? Are we looking to fund professional research and opinions for both the Johnson Lane Town Forest and Punkintown, or just one? And, when would we expect to see this item placed on the ballot for voting? Glenn said that we should recommend the BOS contact Post Road Surveying in Wells (ph: 207-646-4246) since they had given a presentation to the Board of Selectmen on the Johnson Lane Town Forest several years earlier. They were recommended for their fair price and their professionalism. Kim will draft another email to Dana Lee with the answers to the questions.

**Johnson Lane Town Forest:**
The missing file containing the dates of the first set of letters sent to property owners and when ads were placed in local papers has not been located. We need to start over with the process of acquiring these seemingly abandoned properties beginning with sending letters to the listed owners of the properties in question. Since it was the former Town Administrator, Dan Blanchette, who drafted and sent the first set of letters, it is believed that the current Town Manager would have to send them now When Kim drafts the email to Dana Lee about Punkintown, she will also bring up the need to get these letters sent for the Johnson Lane properties.

**Development projects review:**
No report. Jeff Duncan had served on both the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board for close to a decade. He would report to the Conservation Commission each month on any new projects or ny new developments to existing projects that went before the Planning Board. After many years of excellent service to the Commission, the Planning Board, and the Town, he has decided not to renew his status with the Conservation Commission, effective at the end of his term on June 30, 2016.

**Old business:**

The remaining Conservation Commission members all need to do what they can to put out the word that we are looking for new members to fill vacancies. Michele Meyer will consider whether or not she would like to join. Kim will find out whether an acquaintance who had inquired previously would still be interested in at least attending a meeting. Kim will also contact Valerie Nardone to follow up on a friend who had expressed interest.

**Round table discussion:**

None.

**Next meeting:**

Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 7:00PM at Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Richards
Chair, ECC

Cc: Eliot Town Clerk, Commission Members, Commission File