

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
January 20, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Not Present
Anita Craven – Not Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Wren Miller – Alternate - Not Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Not Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Susan Schibanoff –Alternate- Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Public Attending: Dave Faulkenham – NRI Project

Minutes from the December 16, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Ned made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor

Revision of Rules of Procedure:

- The proposed draft of the Easton, New Hampshire Conservation Commission Guidelines was handed out to all members present. It was also e-mailed to all members prior to this meeting
- Each member also received excerpts from “Should Your Commission Have By-Laws?” by Carol Andrews, NH Association of Conservation Commissions executive director
- Simplification of Easton’s guidelines was suggested
- Maria asked all members to review the material in preparation for further discussion at the next meeting

Pastry and Preservation Meeting:

- Next Pastry and Preservation Meeting is February 4th from 4:00pm – 6:00 pm. It is a Mystery Wildlife/Tracking Program and it is family oriented
- This program ties into the Taking Action for Wildlife initiative that the CC is currently undertaking
- Steve Sabre will conduct the program which will include the identification of wildlife signs in the winter along with a basic wildlife tracking workshop
- Anita will write the press release to advertise this program, and the Town signs will also advertise the topic, date, and time
- Refreshments will have a late afternoon “flavor”, perhaps appetizers and hot cider
- Dave Falkenham of the NRI project will attend to update the attendees of his continuing progress with this project
- Members of the CC will meet on February 3rd to set up for this program

Mapping:

- The secretary gave Maria a check for the overlay maps. Maria will pass the check on to Mike Platt who will pick up the maps

Dave Faulkenham – NRI Project:

- Mention was made of the tepid response to the Taking Action for Wildlife mailing and a discussion ensued regarding readdressing the mailing with some sort of follow-up
- Perhaps a mention in the Town's Annual Report of an additional questionnaire available at the Town Meeting would generate more of a response
- Dave met with Mike Platt and downloaded Mike's maps pinpointing key locations for the inventory
- Dave will enlist a UNH wildlife specialist to assist him scouting out important wetland sites
- Dave also mentioned, Joe Homer, a scientist and field person who is proficient reading soil maps and identifying glacial features to help him identify places of interest in Easton
- Dave is interested in exploring Rt. 116 close to Jericho, an old mill site on the east side of Rt. 116, Routes 112 and 116 (an old logging road), places on Paine Rd. where there are lots of culverts (indication water), spruce fir habitats and potential deer yards
- During Dave's winter exploration, many tracks are easily identified (if there is enough snow cover)
- May/June will bring more bird sightings
- The CC will provide Dave with e-mail addresses so that he can ask permission of landowners to access areas of interest

Miscellaneous:

- According to Steve, the CCC clean-up does not look promising as Tropical Storm Irene really impacted the site
- Work on the orchard is necessary, but Molly Fuller said that this should take place after migratory bird season
- The CC needs an easel to display maps and charts. The secretary will ask the Selectmen for permission to order the easel and then consult with the Town Clerk as to where to find the information for ordering

Correspondence: There was no meaningful correspondence to open and discuss

Steve made a motion to close the meeting at 9:30 am. Ned seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
February 17, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Not Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven – Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Wren Miller – Alternate - Not Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Susan Schibanoff –Alternate- Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Not Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Denys officially called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Public Attending: No Public

Minutes from the January 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Ned made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor

Revision of Rules of Procedure:

- Almost the entirety of this meeting dealt with revising the Conservation Commission’s Guidelines
- Many ideas mentioned in the article “Should Your Commission Have Bylaws” written by Carol Andrews, NHACC Executive Director were utilized in the formulation of the new Easton CC Guidelines
- The Commission worked from a draft and addressed each section thoroughly, deleting, adding, combining, and rewording sections
- All present Commission members were in agreement with the final product
- Mike made a motion to discontinue the CC’s current By-laws. Ned seconded the motion and all were in agreement
- Anita made a motion to accept the new Guidelines. Ned seconded the motion and all were in agreement.

Pastry and Preservation Meeting:

- The last Pastry and Preservation meeting dealing, in depth, with winter animal tracking and animal identification was very well received. Attendees commented repeatedly on how much they had learned and the CC received many phone calls after the program expressing compliments they heard regarding the program

- The Committee thanked Steve for putting together and delivering this interesting and informative program

Mapping:

- The maps from Horizon are paid for but have not been printed
- Mike will follow-up to ensure that we have the maps available at Town Meeting
- The Selectmen purchased an easel for use by the CC to assist in displaying maps and charts. The CC will utilize the easel for Town Meeting

Conservation Fund

- Denys reported that after inquiries to the correct authority, the Warrant for the Conservation Fund is written correctly. This verification was in response to a question by the Trustee of the Trust Funds at the Easton Budget meeting

Miscellaneous:

- It was reported that Susan Schibanoff can no longer remain a member of the Conservation Commission. Roy Stever is willing to take Susan's place as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission

Correspondence: There was no meaningful correspondence to open and discuss

Ned made a motion to close the meeting at 10:30 am. Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
March 16, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven –Not Present
Ned Cutler – Not Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Wren Miller – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present
Roy Stever – Alternate - Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Public in Attendance: Dave Falkenham

Minutes from the February 17, 2012 meeting were reviewed. The following amendments were made;

- Kris Pastoriza was not present at the February 17th meeting
- Anita will bring the final revision of the Rules of Procedure to the next meeting for approval by the Conservation Commission

Steve made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Denys seconded the motion and all were in agreement

The Conservation Commission welcomed Roy Stever who will serve the Commission as an alternate

Debbie Stever was appointed to sit on the committee in order to achieve a quorum

Vote – ECC Guidelines

- Since Anita was not present at this meeting, the vote on the Rules of Procedure is scheduled for the April meeting when the group can review the final document

Pastry and Preservation Meeting

- The next topic is the acquisition of a “Community Forest”
- Possible dates are April 15th or April 28th (the 28th is preferable)
- Rebecca Brown from the Ammonousoc Trust will hopefully deliver the presentation

- Dave Falkenham was invited to participate in this program – giving an NRI update
- It was suggested that the Society for the Protection of NH Forests attend this meeting
- The program will begin at 9:00am with an open invitation to Sugar Hill, Franconia and Landaff

Community Forest

- There was a question as to whether the Foss Property (the potential site of the Community Forest) intersects the National Forest and, if so, whether there is a potential for the Forest Service to get involved
- There is a grant available for the Community Forest through the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program Project
- Roy Stever volunteered to make Rebecca Brown aware of this grant opportunity and took all of the information for his next meeting with Rebecca
- An abutter to George Foss has shown interest in adding his land to the Community Forest
- It was reported that there is no timber value on the Foss property as the timber was clear-cut
- An appraisal of the Foss property is in the works

Meeting Schedule

- Maria requested changing the May meeting (May 18th) to June 1st. Denys made a motion to move the meeting to June 1, 2012. Debbie seconded the motion and all were in favor of this change

NRI Update

- Dave has covered many areas of Paine Road with assistance from the Cravens and Stevers. He is currently putting together a photo data base
- Next he will branch out to Sugar Hill Road and Beaver Meadow Drive
- Any Easton resident who has special land features or habitats is urged to get in touch with the CC or Dave, so that Dave can include the property in his research
- With the assistance of a State scientist, Dave is utilizing a web soil survey to break the Town into sections isolating forest soils and agri-soils. Dave believes that soil and water are the two key building blocks of his report followed by animal and forestry resources
- Joe Homer is one of the State scientists who is assisting Dave with a spreadsheet chronicling soils, forest types, key species, and key habitats

Miscellaneous:

- Maria requested new photos for the CC website

- A suggestion was made to include animal prints on the website next winter to aide in animal identification
- Chris Pastoriza is working with the Town of Benton to get their cemetery on the NH Historic Register
- Mike Platt demonstrated how to utilize the new map overlays of Easton. The CC thanked him for his effort with this project
- Mike will download the materials used for the map project on the Town laptop
- Laura Treuman found a book that describes many of the CCC camps in northern New England. The book is in the Easton library

Correspondence:

- Grafton County Plant Sale
- “Saving Special Places” program – April 14th – Weare, NH

Maria made a motion to close the meeting at 9:20 am. Denys seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
April 20, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven- Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Not Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Wren Miller – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present
Roy Stever – Alternate - Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Public in Attendance: Kim Cowles – Lafayette Recreation Commission

Minutes from the March 16, 2012 meeting were reviewed. The following amendment was made:

- Kris (Pastoriza) is spelled with a “K” and not a “C”

Ned made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Steve seconded the motion and all were in agreement. Two copies were signed and returned to the Secretary

Debbie Stever was appointed to sit on the committee in order to achieve a quorum.

Creation and/or Identification of Recreational Trails in Easton

- Kim Cowles Lafayette Recreation Commission attended this meeting to discuss the addition of Easton recreational trails to the trails in Franconia (already mapped)
- Kim gave a brief overview of the Franconia trails; how they were acquired and how they are maintained
- The members of the CC expressed mixed feelings about having trails identified on private land for public use
- Steve made a recommendation to only include already existing roads and trails under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service
- The creation of a Town Forest could also include recreational trails
- Concerns were expressed by CC participants about liability issues and the disruption of existing habitats
- Kim asked if the CC would provide a listing of the Forest Service trails for inclusion in the next printing of the Trail Map

- Ned suggested a liability clause on the Trail Map
- Kim said that she is available to attend future meetings and will keep in touch via e-mail

Land Conservation – USDA/NRCS and Act

- The Stevers reported on a meeting they attended given by the above organizations regarding land conservation
- Even though this particular meeting dealt specifically with farm and ranchland preservation, it also presented concrete ideas to preserve wetlands
- It was mentioned that both Easton bottomlands (soils) and Easton wetlands (quality) have a high potential for preservation
- A suggestion was put forth to possibly concentrate on this topic for a future Pastry and Preservation Meeting
- The CC website will contain (in the near future) information gathered by the Stevers with regard to programs and assistance for landowners

Pastry and Preservation Meeting – “The Birth of a Community Forest”

- This meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 28th at 9:00. Anita will submit a press release for next Wednesday’s Courier
- Set-up will take place on Friday, April 27th. Maria will e-mail with regard to a time
- There are three key-note speakers scheduled (15-20 min.) each followed by a panel discussion
- The speakers and topics are: Julie Renaud Evans (Director of Forestry at Sustainable Forest Futures) who will speak to the history of the community forest, David Wilcox (Town Moderator and Planning Board member) from Randolph who will talk about the successful community forest established in Randolph, and Rebecca Brown (Executive Director of the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust) who will discuss how to procure and fund a community forest
- The panel discussion will also include an Easton Selectman who will address Easton’s position with regard to the community forest proposed for the Foss property
- Dave Falkenham is invited to say a few words about the progress of the NRI project
- Molly Fuller was also informed of the program and all residents of adjoining towns are invited to attend
- The CC took a few minutes to identify other potential properties in Easton that could potentially be liked to this project (Church property on Paine Rd., Finnegan land off Loop Rd. and corner of Rt. 116 and Paine Rd.)

Miscellaneous

- The CC discussed a new State RSA that defines who is allowed and not allowed on private land. This could possibly impact who is allowed to inspect future building lots in Easton

- The possible future gating of the Class VI portion of Paine Road was mentioned with members giving their opinions of this project
- There was a reminder that the next CC meeting is June 1st. There are no meetings scheduled for July and August
- The revised CC Guidelines are up for a final discussion and approval at the June meeting
- The Tunnel Brook Project will most likely resume in the fall with an update at the next CC meeting

Correspondence

- Litter Free NH – Clean-up program
- Old House Preservation

Ned made a motion to close the meeting at 9:50 am. Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
June 1, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven- Present
Ned Cutler – Not Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Not Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Wren Miller – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present
Roy Stever – Alternate - Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Public in Attendance: There were no guests attending this meeting

Minutes from the April 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Anita made a motion to accept the minutes. Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor

Conservation Commission Guidelines

- After rewording **Membership #1** the Guidelines were approved. Steve made a motion to accept the Guidelines with the rewording. Denys seconded the motion. All present were in favor. The Secretary will make the correction.
- Maria will re-do the Validity page, listing each member according to their longevity on the Commission
- When the document is finalized, the Secretary will e-mail it to CC members

Community Forest Update

- Roy Stever mentioned that the Randolph Community Forest will have a Community Day on August 4th.
- The information from the Randolph Forest could prove beneficial to Easton's quest to acquire the Foss land, so interested parties from Easton are urged to attend
- Debbie Stever suggested that the CC (in particular) should look at Randolph's Community Forest from its inception to its reality

- Rebecca Brown from ACT is looking into putting together grants to acquire funding for the Community Forest.
- The assessment of the Foss property is still ongoing
- Rebecca and ACT are hosting walks on the Foss property to acquaint residents of local towns with the land proposed for the Community Forest

- The CC's Pastry and Preservation dealing with the Community Forest was well-attended and there was a lengthy write-up about this meeting in the Courier
- Based on what was presented at this Pastry and Preservation meeting, interested parties from Easton, Sugar Hill, and possibly Landaff, will form a committee to investigate all aspects of creating the Community Forest (10 members altogether)
- Steve suggested that the CC should reinstitute the "Know Your Easton" walks concentrating on the Foss property
- It was suggested that we advertise through the Chamber of Commerce and concentrate on targeting non-residents
- The date of July 28th for this walk was suggested and seemed to work for the CC members
- An interest was expressed in raising money to preserve land contiguous to the Foss property in an effort to raise the stakes for those interested in helping to fund this project

Tunnel Brook Project Update

- Steve reported that he has had no further contact with officials
- He is suggesting September for an orchard clearing day

NRI Update- E-mail From Dave Falkenham

- Dave registered for his final project at Plymouth State. He plans to complete the written portion during June and July
- He cannot make the September 14th CC meeting, but will give his final presentation to Easton residents in October during a Pastry and Preservation event
- Dave will meet with Kris Pastoriza to discuss birds and bird habitat found in Easton and will visit properties on Beaver Meadow Road, Susan Shibanoff's land, and properties on Sugar Hill Road to identify additional wetlands and habitats in different parts of Town

Miscellaneous Business

- The opposition to Northern Pass continues. Sugar Hill will host a meeting updating this project and the opposition's actions
- Northern Pass will announce a new route in August
- Chris Toma expressed an interest in mowing areas accessed by Forest Service gates. He would need a key to the gates. Steve Sabre will e-mail the District Ranger but feels that there are possible liability issues
- There has been a lack of response to the Taking Action for Wildlife initiative. The Committee discussed mailing a card to residents asking for follow-up

- Kris Pastoriza is engaged in further research chronicling the history of Easton. To this end she visited the Landaff Town Hall and discovered that pertinent documents are located in a locked room and a locked safe. At the present time there is no means of accessing either the room or the safe
- Kris proposed employing a locksmith if Landaff is agreeable. The CC discussed an offer to split the cost of a locksmith with Landaff
- Maria and Denys wrote a letter to “Mother Church” that owns property on Paine Road regarding selling the land to the Town. There was no response to the letter
- Ed O’Brien has offered to drive Maria and Denys to Boston to meet face to face with Church officials.

Denys made a motion to close the meeting at 9:45 am. Steve seconded the motion. All present were in agreement

Respectfully submitted,
Toni E. Woodruff

Secretary to the Conservation Commission

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
September 21, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven- Not Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Not Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Wren Miller – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present
Roy Stever – Alternate - Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Public in Attendance: Dave Falkenham

Minutes from the June 1, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Ned made a motion to accept the minutes with the following amendment – “Toma” is changed to correctly read “Thoma”. Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Community Forest Update- Ned Cutler and Roy Stever

- It was reported to the Commission that the major grant being sought for the purchase of the Forest is \$375,000. Grants for smaller amounts are in the works
- The next step is to engage private donors, first larger donors, and then smaller donors
- The groups responsible for issuing the grants like to see community support and involvement
- The Community Forest Committee will write a warrant for the Town supporting the Community Forest. The public vote for this Warrant will take place at Town Meeting in March. A call for public funds to support the Forest will also take place at Town Meeting
- The Community Forest in Randolph was discussed. Its success was partially based on the good economy at the time. Randolph also engaged in a comprehensive mailing asking for support and donations
- Ned informed the Commission that a strategy session for the forest is scheduled for Monday and the group will brainstorm ways to solicit funds.
- It was suggested that this group look into the possible acquisition of the Martha Callendar property that is adjacent to the proposed Community Forest

Tunnel Brook Project Update-Steve Sabre

- Molly Fuller left at the end of August and there is an interim director who was left the message to update Steve on any activity. To date there are no updates

- Terry Fifield is retiring this month
- Steve encountered Tom Wagener while hiking and spoke with him about the Northern Pass. Tom Wagner told Steve that he will make sure the new Director contacts Easton
- Mike Dickerman is writing a book about the CCC Camps and Steve will meet with him

History of Easton- Information From Landaff – Kris Pastoriza

- Kris discovered that the Town records are, as she was previously told, not locked in a safe, but are accessible
- Landaff personnel are not particularly helpful in providing information or access to information
- Ned offered to provide a two page timeline that he received when he bought property in Landaff
- Kris was able to discover three documents in the archives in Concord
- Bob Thibault, Easton Town Clerk, might prove helpful in providing information and inventories that are stored in the safe

Pastry and Preservation Meeting – September 23, 2012 at 3:00-5:00 P.M. – Maria Hynes

- Maria asked that members of the Commission set-up at 1:30 P.M. Refreshments should include cheese, crackers, fruit, dips, veggies, lemonade, ice tea, and water
- Maria will verify whether there is a need for any audio/visual equipment
- The title of the meeting is “Northern Pass and the Impact on the WMNF”
- The keynote speaker is Rebecca Weeks Sherill More. Panelists, to date, are Bob Baker, Jim Dannis, and Tim Duggan
- Ray Burton and other politicians have confirmed their attendance. It is important to invite Tom Wagner

NRI Update- Dave Falkenham

- Dave reported that he is 98% finished. The document is 60+ pages w/photos
- Easton will receive a complete soil analysis
- Dave will continue to meet with landowners after the NRI is completed providing recommendations and educating them about caring about conservation in the Town of Easton
- The completed NRI will have an introduction and chapters that cover soils, water resources, forest resources, and natural resources and wildlife where the emphasis is on habitat protection rather than species protection
- Dave will present his work at a Pastry and Preservation meeting on October 27, 2012. The public can also access the NRI on the CC’s website, or purchase a hard copy
- There is a contest for an appropriate cover photo. E-mail all entries to eastonnhconservation@gmail.com or bring a photo into Town Hall prior to October 18, 2012. The winning prize is a free copy of Dave’s report

Miscellaneous Business:

- The CC discussed a possible donation to the SPNHF to help fund their efforts in buying property in northern NH to stop the Northern Pass from pursuing their favored route
- The Easton Energy Committee is working on a voluntary energy policy for the Town of Easton. This policy would inform and educate residents about the use of renewable and green energy sources. Perhaps this will include an ordinance for the Town to vote on as a warrant at Town Meeting in March
- Maria announced that as of January 1, 2013, she is stepping down as Chairperson of the Conservation Commission

Denys made a motion to close the meeting at 10:00 am. Ned seconded the motion. All present were in agreement

Respectfully submitted,
Toni E. Woodruff

Secretary to the Conservation Commission

**Conservation Commission Meeting
October 19, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven- Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Kris Pastoriza – Not Present
Mike Platt – Not Present
Steve Sabre – Not Present
Wren Miller – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present
Roy Stever – Alternate - Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Maria appointed Debbie and Roy Stever to the Commission to insure a quorum

Public in Attendance: Dave Falkenham

Minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting were reviewed. The following amendments were made to the spelling of two names. The correct spellings are: Terry Fifield and Tom Wagner. Anita made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and all were in favor.

Community Forest Update:

- Grants have resulted in \$475,000 toward the purchase of the forest. There are, according to Roy and Ned other funds still out there and available
- The purchase price of the land is \$650,000, and at the next Community Forest meeting the members will put in place a strategy and procedures for actively soliciting donations from organizations as well as individuals
- Rebecca Brown is working on the copy detailing this project

Expenses for 2013

- The Commission has just about used up its budget for the year
- Further discussion of the CC's upcoming budget will take place at the November meeting

Evaluation of 2012 Projects

- The CC Guidelines, Taking Action for Wildlife, the Natural Resources Inventory, and the Town Mapping were completed during the year
- The Tunnel Brook Project, Community Forest, and the archiving of the Town of Easton's documents are ongoing into 2013
- A suggestion was made with regard to the archiving that perhaps a "group work day" will get the process started in a more meaningful way
- Denys informed the group that the preservation of paper copies of certain documents is mandated by RSA, the scanning of remaining documents is permitted by law

New Project Suggestions for 2013

- Locally grown food initiative (a possible community farm was suggested). There was discussion of a grant associated with a pilot study that would explore stimulating the demand for locally grown food through various marketing techniques

- Educating the Easton residents with regard to the Town's Sustainable Energy Policy that was passed at the 2012 Town Meeting

NRI Update

- Dave indicated that he received feedback on his report from members of the CC
- The NRI is now in the hands of his administrative assistant for publication
- The Town of Bath just completed their NRI, so Dave compared his finished work to theirs (in Bath, each member of the CC wrote a chapter instead of the direction that we took in Easton where Dave wrote the entire document)
- Dave did make a few changes realizing that "aquifers" were never mentioned. He will include maps and information regarding aquifers in Easton
- Dave indicated that he would provide handouts for his Pastry and Preservation presentation of the NRI
- The winning photos were decided upon. They are: Kinsman Range (front cover), Swimming Hole on Loop Road (inside cover), and "The Three Cows" (at the end of the NRI). Each photo will have the name of the photographer in the lower right. Maria will e-mail the photos to Dave

Pastry and Preservation

- Pastry and Preservation is scheduled for October 27, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Set-up is Friday, October 26th at 4:00 p.m.
- Please supply food on Saturday prior to the meeting. Maria will have the beverages ready
- Dave will bring everything that he needs. The CC will borrow the Stever's screen for the power point presentation
- Dave will provide order forms for hard copies and/or electronic copies of the NRI for those who are interested
- Maria will invite Amanda Stone to this presentation

Miscellaneous

- As per Carol Andrews, Easton CC cannot give a donation to SPNHF for land acquisition to block Northern Pass
- It was suggested that a link to the Community Forest Website be placed on the CC website

Ned made a motion to close the meeting at 10:00 am. Denys seconded the motion. All present were in agreement

Respectfully submitted,

Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary to the Conservation Commission

**Conservation Commission Meeting
November 16, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven- Not Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Mike Platt – Not Present
Steve Sabre – Not Present
Wren Miller – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present
Roy Stever – Alternate - Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Maria officially called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Maria appointed Debbie and Roy Stever to the Commission to insure a quorum

Public in Attendance: No public attended this meeting

Minutes from the October 19, 2012 meeting were reviewed. The following amendments were made. The purchase price of the land for the Community Forest is \$600,000. The third bullet under **New Project Suggestions for 2013** should read: Educating the Easton residents with regard to the Town’s Sustainable Energy Policy that will come from the Rights Based Ordinance. Ned made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and all were in favor.

Community Forest Update:

- A brochure highlighting the Community Forest is a work in progress
- Additional grant money from the LCHP (Moose Plate) is expected

Energy Committee:

- The Committee will make energy conservation materials available to the public in an effort to support the on-going mission of informing and educating Easton residents
- The Committee will write a Warrant for the next Town Meeting tying in energy conservation projects to the Town’s Sustainable Energy Policy
- A Pastry and Preservation hosted by the Conservation Commission is scheduled for January 19, 2013. The Energy Committee will present the program which will include an introduction to the Warrant Article
- An invitation will go out to Sugar Hill who also adopted a Sustainable Energy Policy last year
- The Committee will look into making the Town buildings more energy efficient. A few suggestions were to insulate the basement properly, and put a timer on the hot water heater
- It was mentioned that a member of the Committee might attend a Planning Board meeting to discuss building codes that might effect energy efficiency

Budget for 2013:

- Maria presented a break-down of all of the expenses for the past year
- The Commission decided to budget \$1500.00 for the following year (The same amount as last year)

Appointments/Reappointments for 2013:

- Maria announced that she will stay on as Chairperson until the April 2013 reorganization meeting
- Mike Platt asked to step down as a voting member of the Committee and be re-appointed as an alternate. His term as an alternate would end in 2015(the date that Roy Stever's term ends)
- Maria recommended appointing Roy Stever to take Mike's place. Ned moved the motion and all were in favor. Roy will assume this position until 2014(the date that Mike's term would end)
- Kris, Denys, and Maria are up for re-election this year. Wren Miller will not run for another term
- Maria will talk with Steve to see whether he will remain on the Commission

NRI Update:

- Dave cannot have the NRI printed. Maria said that she could e-mail the NRI to those who are interested, or provide a CD for \$1.00

Town Report Submission:

- The Secretary is requesting that all Boards and Commissions, and Committees submit their annual report to her by January 7, 2013

Miscellaneous:

- The Warrant for the Conservation Fund was discussed

Correspondence:

- Forest Law Municipal Officials Workshop

Maria made a motion to close the meeting at 10:00 am. Denys seconded the motion. All present were in agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary to the Conservation Commission

**Conservation Commission Meeting –Draft Copy
December 21, 2012**

Conservation Commission Members

Maria Hynes – Chairman Not Present
Denys Draper – Co-Chairman – Present
Anita Craven- Not Present
Ned Cutler – Present
Kris Pastoriza – Present
Steve Sabre – Present
Roy Stever - Present
Mike Platt – Alternate – Not Present
Debbie Stever – Alternate – Present

Commission Secretary

Toni Woodruff - Present

Denys officially called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
Denys appointed Debbie Stever to the Commission to insure a quorum

Public in Attendance: No public attended this meeting

Minutes from the November 16, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Ned made a motion to approve the minutes and Steve seconded the motion. All were in favor

Community Forest Update:

- A strategy for individual and corporate fundraising is being formulated
- The regulations governing the make-up of the board for the forest (present and future) is in place
- A formula for monetary support from the individual Towns involved in the creation of the Community Forest is being considered
- The National Forest has labeled this Community Forest as the number one forest project in the country probably due to the multiple communities involved, and the opportunity for growing and ongoing educational, recreational, and land management components

Energy Committee:

- A Pastry and Preservation hosted by the Conservation Commission is scheduled for January 19, 2013 at 9:00 AM
- The Energy Committee will present the program which will include an introduction to a Warrant Article supporting the Sustainable Energy Policy Warrant that was passed at last year's Town Meeting and to introduce and educate residents about energy conservation projects
- Postcards advertising this event will go out to all Easton residents
- The Energy Committee will place an article in the Courier informing the public about this event
- An invitation will go out to Sugar Hill who also adopted a Sustainable Energy Policy last year
- The set-up for the Pastry and Preservation will take place on January 18th after the monthly CC meeting
- The Committee will look into making the Town buildings more energy efficient by insulating the basement under the new addition, adding a plywood door to this area and closing off the portals, and wrapping the pipes in insulating materials
- On demand hot water was also discussed for Town Hall

Budget for 2013:

- The Commission decided to budget \$1500.00 for the following year (the same amount as last year).
- Steve made a motion to delay a vote on the CC budget until the next meeting due to concerns regarding potential extra funding for the Energy Committee. Roy seconded the motion and all were in favor

Appointments/Reappointments for 2013:

- Anita was reappointed to the Conservation Commission
- Terms of members were aligned so that they did not expire in the same year

2013 Projects

- Denys is continuing to pursue assistance with this project from the State Librarian
- The Tunnel Brook Project will continue
- The Pemi Northwest Project is also continuing in 2013
- Kris brought up the importance of preserving the Town Inventory
- The “Keep Growing” initiative will expand in the new year with a possible mapping of Town farmland

Town Report Submission:

- The Secretary is requesting that all Boards and Commissions, and Committees submit their annual report to her by January 7, 2013

Miscellaneous:

- Ned made a motion to form an Energy Subcommittee as part of the Conservation Commission. Steve seconded the motion and all were in agreement
- Ned made a motion to purchase the book, Life at Wildwood: A CCC Camp in Wildwood, New Hampshire, for the Conservation Commission at a cost of \$9.95 plus shipping. Debbie seconded the motion and all were in favor

Correspondence:

- There was no correspondence to discuss

Denys made a motion to close the meeting at 10:00 am. Ned seconded the motion. All present were in agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni E. Woodruff
Secretary to the Conservation Commission

