

## Manchester Conservation Commission

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Town office

The Manchester Conservation Commission met Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> for their regular monthly meeting. Present were Jeff J, Fred, and Garry. A quorum not being present, no official business was conducted. Minutes of the June meeting will be presented for approval at the August meeting.

We held some informal discussions, and developed preliminary assignments for comp plan implementation. These to be further developed at the August meeting.

**RTP grant.** We received an RTP grant in the amount of \$18,240, requiring a match of \$4,560. KLT is the grant administrator. The project is in two phases: phase one is bog bridging on the west side of Shedd Pond. This project to be done by the Maine Conservation Corps, possibly this fall. Phase 2 is the reconstruction of the tote road trail on NEFF property on the east side of the pond, from the continuation of the eagle scout project below Scribner Hill, down to the pond, and around the west side. This project consists of ditching the low side and using the materials removed to build up the trail to a 12 ft. wide multiuse (walk, bike, horse, snowmobile, and ski) capability. This project would be done next year, and would require a competitive bid for a contractor.

NEFF may be planning a small harvest and demonstration project in the area. We will need to coordinate with NEFF, but his also may be an opportunity. Garry has approached NEFF about a financial or in-kind contribution. It will be considered for their next budget.

It was agreed that we should schedule a meeting for the involved parties to go over details. Jeff will contact Theresa at KLT. Garry will keep NEFF in the loop.

**Other Business.** Garry reported that the logging operation near town forest in the Summerhaven area appears to be finished. It was a neat job, with no apparent adverse impact on the multiuse recreational trail, or town property.

Garry and Jeff will review the developing ad hoc trails in the area. For now, they do not seem to be a problem. At some point, perhaps these should be formalized and managed.

**Solid Waste/dump site.** Garry met with Lesley Jones. Nothing new on Hatch Hill, and Augusta's proposed waste to fuel project is on hold (dead probably.) Garry will discuss options with Pat, and also will get the latest Silver Bullet figures.

No action yet on the old dump site off Pipeline Road, below the quarries. Pat said the CEO would be checking soon.

**Heron Rookery.** Jeff noted this is on private property, and a willing land owner is required in order to protect the habitat. Jeff will follow up, and do what he can.

**Ordinance Review Committee.** Garry contacted Pat about having MCC representation on this committee. The Comp Plan requires the committee. Pat is agreeable, and stated the committee would be formed in the fall. Shenna has agreed, tentatively, to represent the MCC on the ORC.

**Comp Plan Strategies.** Reviewed those parts of the Comp Plan for which the MCC has a role or responsibility. Made some preliminary assignments which will be expanded upon at subsequent meetings. Garry to seek clarification from Pat on certain items. Jeff to discuss some items with Martha.

Discussed the MCC's role vis-à-vis the Planning Board, especially with respect to managing town public lands, shoreland issues, run off etc. Garry to contact Pat about MCC receiving notification of relevant topics and proposals.

**Facebook page.** Discussed the possibility of creating an MCC facebook page to keep Manchester citizens informed of MCC projects; provide general education; and forum for local conservation issues. Garry to talk to Pat (who has agreed to the idea.)

Next meeting is August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm at the town office.

Grh