

Poland Conservation Commission

Town of Poland
1231 Maine St.
Poland, Maine 04274

Meeting Minutes, March 14, 2018

Members Present: Barry Morgan(co-chairperson), Jean Potuchek(Treasurer), Donald Stover(Secretary), John Laskey, Fred Morton, James Walker (Selectperson).

Minutes of February meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report: The check for Joe Neville for bridge design and estimate has not yet been issued. Jean will look into this.

Heart of Poland: Jean and Barry met in executive session with the Selectboard concerning our recommendation to explore purchase of an abutting property. They felt the interaction was positive and that most of the board were in favor of moving forward with the plan. It was learned that money from the sale of another property could not be applied to this purchase because of a previous article that designates all proceeds from sale of town lands be dedicated to economic development.

Barry reported that since the meeting the Town Manager has engaged a realtor to examine value of the property and make plans to approach the owners regarding sale. Barry will continue to pursue this issue. He believes the purchase could be made with money from Conservation Reserve and private donations.

Barry will be checking with Ms Perkins and Mr. Small concerning completion dates for the Wildlife and Forestry Plans at HOP.

MEACC: Barry, Don and Keith Messer attended the annual meeting of the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions. Don and Barry reported on presentations concerning the Maine Conservation Corps and Open Space Housing Developments. The MCC appears to be a good resource for some of our trail development projects. Barry is planning a consultation with them in the fall. Report on Open Space developments prompted discussion of the need for Conservation Commission to work more closely with our Planning Board. Jean suggested that we request the Planning Board to give Conservation notice when they are scheduled to discuss changes in ordinances. Networking at the MEACC meeting revealed that a number of other Conservation commissions are also interested in invasive species programs.

Waterhouse Park: Engineer Joe Neville has presented an estimate of \$34,00 for the proposed bridge over Waterhouse Dam. In communication with Don ghe said, "This includes a PT wood walkway/railing on the the approach on each side. What I did for the approaches was use the same cost per foot of the bridge decking and railing and added something for the support system."

Future priorities and goals: The following were offered as goals for the next year:

Bridge at Waterhouse Dam

HOP land purchase

MEACC consultation

Joint meeting with Trails Committee

Better planning for Town Meeting to ensure that Conservation speaks to relevant issues

Work toward change of past warrant articles that adversely affect conservation goals

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11 at 7pm in Ricker Library Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Stover, Secretary