

MONMOUTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting—January 14, 2014

The Monmouth Conservation Commission met at the Monmouth Municipal Office at 6:30pm on January 14, 2014. Present were commissioners Doug Beck, Herb Whittier, Randy Schiller, Cindy Parker, Bob Mulliken, and town manager Curtis Lunt. The meeting began at 6:35pm.

As there was no meeting in December, there were no minutes to approve.

Working on our task of indexing: A map of Monmouth was presented by Curt showing property divisions in town, specially printed by Paul Ruopp, with certain town owned properties highlighted in magenta. Herb obtained a current list of “public properties” in town. We can begin to index (and complete the map) with this list, using the large map for reference of land use, conservation and recreation opportunities for the commission to work on.

Doug suggested we make our year-one work plan: Inventory/indexing town; speakers from like-minded organizations, develop a working budget, etc. Curt asked us to come up with a budget to present to the selectmen. Many nearby towns have conservations commissions, and some are members of the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC). Cost is based on the population size of the town.

A budget could include administrative/office costs, professional printing, flyers/brochures, postage, membership in organizations such as MACC. Curt recommended a budget focusing on utility. Discussion of dollar figures. Motion made by Herb to ask selectmen for fiscal year budget of \$1500; seconded by Randy; all in favor. Doug as chair will write up a formal budget to present to selectmen.

Doug suggested we each come up with a list of possible projects for the CC to do; a Top 10 list from each of us. Each commissioner will send their list to Cindy who will collate them. We can see if similarities emerge and whittle down the list for priorities. We will go over results at our next meeting.

Discussed possible speakers: Doug suggested Marcel Polak of Inland Fisheries. Bob said Dan Stewart of Maine DOT has offered to talk with us in Feb or March. Bob suggested connections to the Bike Coalition of Maine, Hugh LeMaster of the Cochnewagan Trailblazers, Theresa Kerchner of the Kennebec Land Trust, and the Winthrop Plays Outside program. Doug will ask Fred Snow of Maine Association of Conservation Commissions to come speak at our February meeting. Bob will ask Dan Stewart for March. Randy will speak with Gary Maurer of Stanton Bird Club (Woodbury Sanctuary) for April. Herb will speak with Bill Monagle of Cobbossee Watershed for May.

The next meeting of the Monmouth Conservation Commission is February 11, 2014.

Motion to adjourn (Herb), seconded (Randy), all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Parker, Secretary