

Eastham Conservation Commission

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**Eastham Conservation Commission
2500 State Highway
Small Meeting Room
January 20, 2015
Work Session
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Chair Stephen Smith, Michael Harnett, Mary Zdanowicz and Steven Kleinberg.

Commissioners Not Present: James Baughman and Steven LaBranche.

Staff Present: Shana Brogan.

8:02AM

The chairman started the meeting.

Discussion Items

Conservation Lands Regulation

The commission went over the regulation and will send them to the Open Space Committee to review. Shana Brogan changed the format of the regulations. The dispensers for dog waste were discussed and it was noted that there was one located at First Encounter Beach. The dispenser was a donation to the town from the Eastham Dog Association, but it was unclear who refills the dispensers. The commission suggested that the recreation department could refill it in the summer and incorporate Wiley Park and Cottontail Acres into the routine. The commission decided that they do not want to include mountain bikes in the regulations.

Land Management Plan

Brush burning is to be removed from the land management plan as it is no longer permitted to be conducted at the conservation areas. The commission said when looking at the five year management plan and practice it is important to make sure that it matches our regulations. Shana Brogan will tell the Open Space Committee about the policy for benches in the town. Part of the plan includes making sure dogs do not degrade the work that is being done on any lands. The commission discussed mowing at Cottontail Acres and promoting bobwhites, bluebirds and other animals. They also want to look at invasive plants and see if AmeriCorps will be willing to help with the plants. The commission would like for the less amount of herbicides as possible be used. It was noted that there is poison ivy at Wiley Park and First Encounter Beach.

Brochure

The brochure is still a work in progress, and the commission is worried how it will be interpreted. The commission would like more details added to the PVC fencing section. A link will be added to the Conservation webpage which will include hyperlinks that will add a link within the body of the text for people. It was decided to remove the minor activity exempt portion. Shana Brogan will check with a local printer concerning the cost of printing the brochure. She will also check to see if there is any difference between the fertilizer policy and the fertilizer regulations.

Planting Plan Policy

Chairman Smith is concerned about the enforcement ability and how much it would increase the workload. He is also concerned that resource areas are not being restored. It was noted that not many people have come to the commission for mowing lawns or pruning. The idea of having perimeters for planting plans incorporated into planting plans or into the Order of Conditions. Shana Brogan will e-mail the original version to Chairman Smith. It will include guidelines for filing a Notice of Intent, map of where the placements are, information on pruning, 2:1 mitigation. It was noted that if placement changes they will need a new plan. It is to include plantings appropriate for the habitat area and planted in appropriate conditions. A timeline for the planting will also be required.

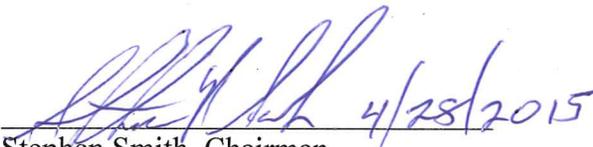
A work session was scheduled for Tuesday February 17, 2015.

10:20AM

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted as prepared by,


Teena Tilton


Stephen Smith, Chairman
Conservation Commission