

Bolton Conservation Commission

Minutes of March 12, 2007

In attendance: Tony Barbagallo, Lars Botzjorns, Tom Longstreth, Amy May, Sharon Murray, Livy Strong (JULT)

1. Chittenden County Uplands Conservation Project Update

Amy gave an update on the CCUCP meeting she had attended. Several projects VLT is working on are awaiting appraisals. The appraisals have specific requirements because of Forest Legacy funding. The meeting with the selctboard on the Wheeler NE property had gone well. TNC has completed the Rolling Hill project and anticipate selling the property to a private owner.

Livy Strong from Jericho Underhill Land Trust came to meet BCC members and talk about the Bolton property they may acquire in the future. They are interested in the property because it abuts the Wolfrun property they already own. Livy explained how JULT works and that they do pay taxes on the land they own.

2. Conservation Fund Vote

The close vote on the conservation fund was discussed. It was agreed that education is needed on several levels. Concerns about the fund seem to stem from land being removed form the tax roles and the perception that traditional uses are not allowed on conserved land. The issue of atv's and the perceprion of that community on conservation was also discussed. Sharon said in the past the BCC had indicated they would help find areas where atv's could ride.

3. Bolton Valley Rezone request update

Tony and Sharon reported that there was nothing new to report on this issue. They had met once and the ball was in Bolton Valley/Redstone's court to come up with a master plan.

4. Bolton Natural Resource Inventory

The Planning Commission has interest in a Natural Resource Inventory being done for the town. Sharon had prepared an outline of items she felt should be included in such a document. The BCC will start by seeing what information is already available and pursue a planning grant to have more work done if needed.

Action items: Members agreed to research the following items

Sharon: natural setting, water resources, land resources

Amy: wildlife resources, will see what GIS layers are available

Tony: earth resources

Tom?(not present we will ask him) Outdoor recreation resources

Unassigned: Scenic resources, threats & opportunities

5. New Business

Sharon said she felt the BCC should be meeting once a month to complete the projects we want to and to maintain continuity. Amy and Tony agreed.

6. Next meeting: April 9 7PM Smilie School