

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
September 12, 2016

Present: Liz Evans Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young
Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand Irving Johnson
Guests: Bryant Scott Lynn Sweet

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:10 pm. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Randy to accept the August 2016 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations Lynn Sweet, our Chair of Selectmen, came to request help from the Commission in solving the problem of legally helping with the upkeep of the Class 6 portion of Evans Mountain Road from where it begins to the Town property line. Eric Rowe has asked the town to grade the road once a year after the spring thaw for a period of five years. Greg Messenger advised that the cost would be about \$750.00 for the first year. Lynn is having town lawyers check to see if the Commission could cover the cost. This will be discussed at the Commission's next meeting in October.

DES Applications none

Continuing Business

IRCR Scott has been string trimming the old orchard and wanted to know if he should also be doing the alternate parking area at the corner of Ricky Nelson Road and Pig Lane. We agreed.

Evans Mountain Scott and Dave walked the new link flagged by Phil Auger which leads from the ledges down the hill to the logging road. Scott says that this trail is better for preserving the sensitive habitats of the mountain. George Lovejoy approves of this rendition. Scott will propose this trail to Bear-Paw.

Town Forest The original plan for upgrading the old logging road (Neil Mooers Loop) starting at the smaller parking area on Parker Mountain Road has been scrapped. Charlie Moreno and Scott are working with NRCS to locate a smaller logging area farther down the mountain and closer to the road.

Rick Hodges phoned Liz with major concern about fire pits and fires on Parker Mountain. There has been a huge increase in their occurrence. The State and National Parks are not allowing open fires during this drought and according to Rick it has gone out over the internet that Parker Mountain is not monitored and there are no signs prohibiting fires (or camping). We originally didn't prohibit these activities because the Boy Scouts use the property and carefully supervise the activities. It looks as though we need to revisit the fire policy and get appropriate signage. Irving suggested a "No Overnight Parking" sign in the parking lot. This would help police monitor the camping/fire use. In the meantime, Rick has made a "No Fires" sign for the kiosk. Fire pits should be dismantled. Trash is also becoming a problem. A work day will be planned.

Other Dan Dupee is wondering about the interview article that was to be written. – Harmony?
Bob Edmonds brought in an old sign for the Dupee property and is again working on the originally designed trails for the property.

No news on the dock violation situation.

New Business September 16th is the Bear-Paw Day of Giving project, the clean-up of the old foundation on the School Property.

There was a discussion about the Auger and Perry properties. We looked back in the minutes and found where we approved our share of funding for each project. Is Bear-Paw asking for additional help in funding the appraisals? According to our document “A System for Evaluating Applications for Funding of Private Citizen Land Protection Projects” of May 2006, we will cover “summary appraisals (only)”. Liz copied the document for us to look at. We need clarification on what is being asked.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 3 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page