

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
July 12, 2021

Present: Randy Jacunski , Kerry Omand, Liz Evans, Scott Young, Sue Barnes, Dave Perkins, Jim Kerivan, Katrina Amaral

Opening & Introduction

June minutes: Liz moves to accept minutes, Sue seconds, all in favor.

Guest Presentations: Jim Kerivan is looking to put a small parcel in conservation easement. This is below the minimum most conservation organizations will handle, perhaps 3 acres. He suggested that the town might be able to accept a simple conservation easement with deed restrictions in place. It would likely be that the conservation Commission then has to monitor the restrictions. Liz Evans will do some follow up research on accepting easement gifts by municipalities to see what the options and implications are for the town.

Katrina Amaral came in to discuss the Pregent Project. This discussion has been delayed until the August meeting. Katrina mentioned that there are several more projects in the works but that the availability of surveyors and appraisers is quite limited. It could cause delays as much as a year or two.

The discussion then turned to the rapidly increasing real estate values in town and the vulnerability of the back lands to increasing development pressure.

DES Applications: none

New Business: none

Continuing Business

IRCR – none

Strafford Town Forest- none

Evans Mt.- none

Barnes Lot Conservation Easement – on hold, waiting for surveyor's report.

Leighton Forest- SELT closed on the deal and the town has fulfilled its commitment to fund the project. Several Conservation Commission members showed up for the big check presentation.

Other – Upcoming Thursday is the Wilcox case at the zoning board meeting.

Calendar ideas/wildlife sightings: One eagle and a hawk have been fledged from the Bennett Island nest. Many Loons now have small chicks in tow.

Meeting ended 8:17 pm

Site Visits: none

Next meeting: Monday August 2nd, 2021 7:00 pm. in person

Respectfully submitted,
Scott A. Young