

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
July 13, 2020

Present: Mimi Jost, Randy Jacunski, Kerry Omand, Liz Evans, Scott Young, Michael Ferber, Sue Barnes, Dave Perkins, Eric Rowe

Opening & Introduction

The Zoom meeting was opened at 7:06 pm. Liz read the abbreviated version of the Emergency Declarations. A motion was made by Mimi and seconded by Michael to approve the June minutes. Approved.

Guests: Eric Rowe expressed his interest in our partially funding the Class 6 Evans Road upgrade necessary to meet his business requirements as he agreed to with the Selectmen. He also threatened legal action against the conservation commission because he believes we haven't met LCHIP requirements.

DES Applications: None discussed

Continuing Business

IRCR – Storybook Posts/Joe Molloy Eagle Scout project discussed and approved pending impending site meeting. Several downed trees were reported and Randy had already or was about to take care of them.

Town Forest- Reviewed Paul Eaton's estimate to herbicide invasives, mainly Norway Maple saplings on the Town Forest drumlin. 16 Ash trees injected to prevent death from EAB. Approved Bre's request to harvest small ash trees up on the drumlin for Garnas's groups EAB research.

Evans Mt.- Updated Commission on the wildfire. Discussed funding/installing a gate at the far end of the logging road/snowmobile trail where it abuts Jack O'Brien's property. Kerry will look into sourcing funds/construction. (cost approx. \$ 1,500.00) Evans trail update after Phil Auger/Fred Borman/Randy Jacunski roughed out trail and tried to block ORV access with debris. Rue Teel, Bear Paws stewardship coordinator, is organizing a work party with 3 interns for trail clearing the week of August 17th. Others invited! Jack O'Brien asked for permission to mount bird boxes on Town property-approved. Reviewed Whip-poor-will surveys, numbers appear to be holding steady at a reduced level from earliest surveys.

Leighton Forest- Updated commission on the Selectman's meeting to inform them of our financial support and received their approval of support for this conservation project. Town will have an executory interest at closing.

Waldron Easement- Katrina Amaral led commission members on a walk of the property May 21st. Discussed the merits of the property and indicated support if the landowner wants to pursue a conservation easement. The property is dry upland forest with significant road frontage.

Other: Liz mentioned we may have another Boy Scout proposing an Eagle Scout project

Meeting ended 8:32 pm

Next meeting: Monday, August 3rd, 2020 7 pm. Zoom. **Site Visits:** None scheduled

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Young