

Strafford Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
August 2nd, 2021

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

**Opening & Introduction:** start 7:08 pm

**July minutes:** Dave moves to accept minutes, Sue seconds, all in favor.

**Guest Presentations:** none

**DES Applications:** none

**New Business:**

**Continuing Business**

**Pregent project-** after reviewing the proposal, Dave made a motion and Randy seconded proposal to fund the survey costs up to \$9,200.00 from the Conservation Easement Fund. All in favor. Liz abstains.

**Evans Mt.-** quiet

**IRCR** – cow path string trimmed, reviewed New Rd. Subdivision redesign, as abutters we have no objections and prefer this proposal over the initial one. Pig Lane has washout from historic July rains.

**Strafford Town Forest-** Informed commission that I signed off on Clayton Price's Eagle Scout project (the boardwalk at the head of the Spencer-Smith trail). EAB research expansion notification. EAB group will attempt residual Norway Maple control.

**Barnes Lot Conservation Easement** – pending, waiting for surveyor's report.

**Other** – Wilcox case withdrawn for now.

American rescue Plan is offering grant funds for libraries. They asked for suggestions, and we came up with acquisition of some natural history apps to help people identify elements in our local environment. Merlin for birds, Rockd for geology, SkyView for astronomy, Picture This for plant identification

Mimi sent around an article: Taxation, open spaces, and the great divide over current use in The NH bulletin. Many on the commission refuted the article. Poor application to NHs current use program, focused too much on agriculture, didn't apply to the current use restrictions mandated in NH, used too many examples outside of our state, didn't list all the benefits of conserving open land including reducing taxes, open to public recreation, clean water, etc.

Multi-board department head meeting on Tuesday August 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm. Each board chair is welcome to submit one item for agenda discussion.

Liz will try to assist Jim Kerivan's request for non-ordinary easement options.

**Calendar ideas/wildlife sightings:** Rainfall totals for July over 14 inches, snake worms are prolific in some gardens, Gypsy Moths are going to be renamed, outbreaks have been noticed in other towns but not currently in Strafford. Baby Loons are cute.

Meeting ended 8:13 pm

**Site Visits:** none

**Next meeting:** Monday September 13th, 2021, 7:00 pm. in person

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott A. Young