

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
August 3, 2020

Present: Mimi Jost, Randy Jacunski, Kerry Omand ,Mme Liz Evans, Scott Young, Sue Barnes, Dave Perkins, Stacey Moran, Katrina Amaral

Opening & Introduction

A Google Groups Meeting was opened at 7:01 pm. A motion was made by Randy and seconded by Dave to approve the June minutes. Approved.

Guests: Barnes Project Presentation by Executive Director of Bear Paw Katrina Amaral. She had just received the appraisal for the @ 62 acre property. The total project cost for the easement is @ \$118,883.00. Katrina is looking for financial support ranging from \$15-19K to cover survey expenses. ARM grant hopefully the bulk of the appraisal. 26 acres of property is important wetlands. Katrina would also like a letter of support from the Conservation commission prior to an august 31st, 2020 deadline for application. This property is categorized as top tier wildlife habitat on a state level, and it abuts a large tract of conserved properties.

Scheduled tour lead by Katrina and Sue Barnes for Monday August 10th at 9:00 am; 878 Province Road

DES Applications: Liz provided a condensed version of a wetlands permit for Jodi Lane/Rte 202A Daren Doyle restoration project. Map 20, Lot 20-13. This is to correct an illegal fill on the property from long ago in order to receive a building permit for the dry areas on the lot. If we want to comment, we must do it in writing within 2 weeks. Liz provided a 2 page document consisting of a letter to DES and a plot plan.

Continuing Business

IRCR – Liz/Randy are going to keep us abreast of the development on the Route 126 end of Pig lane around the Huckins Brook bridge.

Town Forest- No news from Eagle Scout candidate about trail improvement project.

Evans Mt.- Attended LCHIP visit/survey. Andrew mentioned that we are compliant with all requirements of the grant and not to worry about any legal liability. Andrew made some notes about previous easement violations on the property and we noticed a great deal of ORV traffic on the logging road, especially near the wildfire site.

Rue Teel discussed the upcoming intern project starting August 17th, and the stipulations for their work environment while helping construct the trail-social

distancing must be maintained as per UNH edicts.

Leighton Forest- Duane Hyde/SELT offered commission members to show up at the start of an LCHIP tour but not attend walk due to social distancing protocols. August 6th at 1 pm if interested in showing verbal support. A letter of support is due by August 16th to be filed with grant applications.

Other: Bow View Drive. Several Strafford landowners have expressed concern about a neighbor filling in wetlands between houses 13 and 30. The last few years owner of property has been filling in swamp/wetlands and constructing a pond with loads of gravel and soil as recently as last Saturday. The town has no record of permits being filed to change the structure of the area. The road has been considerably widened in the process. They note the stream that used to drain this wetlands into the lake has been discharging silt. The question is what level of support the conservation commission would give to get involved a DES violation filing. Several members seemed interested in following this up.

Meeting ended 8:12 pm

Next meeting: Monday, August 3rd, 2020 7 pm. Zoom. **Site Visits:** Barnes: August 10th, 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Young