

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
April 3, 2017

Present: Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young Katrina Amaral Susan Barnes
Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand Irving Johnson
Guests: Mimi Jost Don Clifford DanKern

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:03 pm. Some wording under New Business was amended to read “Scott says it was a record last year for white footed mice hence deer ticks for this coming season.” A motion was made by Randy and seconded by Sue to accept the March 2017 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations

- Don Clifford dropped by to present his bill for plowing the two town forest parking lots. Dave made a motion to have plowing done only when the snow was more than 4 inches. The motion was tabled for discussion until this fall. Payment of bill approved by consensus.
- Dan presented the Project Budget for Bennett Island. The appraisal is for \$700,000, the asking price is \$200,000 plus \$34,000 for conservation costs. So far \$53,000 has been raised. More events are planned starting soon. Dan said that they are having difficulties getting the Northwood Conservation Commission on board. Bear-Paw is asking for an extension to raise funds until Dec. 31, 2017
- In other news, Dan has not heard whether the trail plan for Evans Mountain has been accepted.

DES Applications none

Continuing Business Scott presented a list of maintenance projects:

IRCR

Pruning apple trees – Randy

Chop vines off trees – Katrina, Mimi, Carolyn

Garlic pull – Mimi, Carolyn

Gates – Kerry will talk to the snowmobile club about the gate on the power lines.

Trimming – Scott will trim back the blackberries at the top of Pig Lane to aid parking there and string trim the orchard

Town Forest

Trail at the base of Parker’s Spencer Smith Trail needs to be rerouted or re-planked. All were asked to take a look at the possibilities.

Cemetery clearing – a work day will be planned later this year.

For the other jobs listed (parking area clean-up, etc.) Scott will email us if he needs help.

The Kiosks at both sites need to be updated.

Faded signs – Carolyn will see if AMI can make fade-proof signs.

Maps – could use better ones (see New Business)

Pictures of area – check with AMI about non- fading - Carolyn

Suggestions for other info to be included: invasive plant ID - Katrina

Evans Mountain

Gates – Kerry, Scott

Trail – not yet

Natural Resource Inventory Evans Mt. – Scott, Mimi, Sue, Katrina

New Business

The Strafford Regional Planning Commission wants to develop a public access regional trails network database to include mapping, parking and permitted uses. The data will be available on paper and interactive mobile maps. A professional-grade GPS unit will be used to collect trail locations. The commission was asked to list the trails wanted for this mapping. They include:

- Town forest: Spencer Smith Trail, Neil Mooers Loop
- IRCR: Cattle path, Beaver Pond Loop, Foss Mill Trail, the Meadows Trail, Pig Lane, Snowmobile Trail and the historical trails off of Pig Lane (Mill Site Trail, the North Mill Site Trail, Old Cemetery Trail)
- Eventually to include the Evans Mt. trail.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 1 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page