

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
June 3, 2019

Present: Susan Barnes, Bruce Smith, Dave Perkins, Mimi Jost, Liz Evans, Scott Young, Randy Jacunski, Kerry Omand, Katrina Amaral

Opening & Introduction

The meeting was opened at 7:03 pm. A motion was made by Sue and seconded by Scott to approve the May minutes as written. Approved.

Continuing Business

IRCR – Scott reported people with metal detectors and shovels digging off the trails. Concerns were raised about disturbing historic sites. Bruce will check with NHF&G, Scott with NHACC, and Liz with the archaeologist working at Austin Cate to see if they can provide any guidance regarding state laws. Meanwhile, it is always best to ask permission before digging on property that you do not own.

Evans Mountain – The trail has been approved by Bear-Paw. Kerry reports that the snowmobile club has re-locked the gates.

Town Forest – A report from Mike Harrington suggested that the Parker Mountain trail is difficult to follow and he volunteered to help mark it. We are grateful for anyone in the community who wishes to help with trail maintenance of these public properties. Scott and Randy will prune the lilac bushes so that the memorial plaque is visible again. Ben P's Eagle Scout project is progressing.

EAB project update – the UNH team has selected study trees and is ready to proceed with the experiment. They have started by taking DNA samples from the trees so that they can assess genetic differences in response to EAB infection.

Other

The Breakfast in the Barn fundraiser which supports Bear-Paw and its work in land conservation did very well again this year.

The garlic mustard pull was a success with 11 volunteers filling 11 bags of the invasive weed. Mimi reports that while the amount of garlic mustard is being successfully reduced, there are other invasives taking its place.

Next meeting: Monday, July 1, 7 pm. Town Hall. **Site Visits:** None

Respectfully submitted,

Katrina Amaral