

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
August 6, 2018

Present: Liz Evans Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand
Bruce Smith Irving Johnson Susan Barnes

Guests: Mimi Jost

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:08 pm. The July Minutes will be discussed in the September meeting.

DES Applications none

Continuing Business

IRCR - Bruce reported that the work done in the Eversource easement is acceptable. The commissioners found no objections to the company continuing repairs through the IRCR property as discussed in the July meeting.

Dupee Walk – The site walk group found that Trout Unlimited had gone ahead with their planned habitat improvements. Some marked trees were dropped across the stream to create shade and protection for the fish.

The current trail will need blazes and brush work. The property line should be blazed. Scott reported that the invasives weren't too bad.

Evans Mountain Some trees were reported down after a big storm that blew through in the last week of July. Mimi reminded us that the property needed monitoring by October.

Town Forest No one has been out to check for downed trees. Kerry reported blow-downs on Bennett Island.

Other.

Mimi brought up concerns about road salt getting into the Isinglass River and also the runoff from the diesel and gas pumps at the store. We need to contact the state about the salt usage.

New Business none

Other Critter report: Scott warned of Snake Worms (aka Jumper Worms) invading local gardens and moving into our forests. He says they change our native soil structure in a way that threatens our native plant communities. Look for coffee ground type castings of this annual worm. They are being spread through the nursery industry and plant exchanges.

A new species of tick has been discovered in 8 eastern states. They are larger than our wood tick and more prolific. They have not been reported in NH yet. Their preferred hosts are domestic animals. Overall the group felt that we were experiencing fewer bugs this season.

Next Meeting: Monday, 7:00 pm. September 10, Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Enz Page