

**Strafford Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**November 6, 2017**

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

Guests: Mimi Jost Don Clifford Dan Kern

**Opening and Introductions**

The meeting was opened at 7:08 pm. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Kerry to accept the October 2017 **minutes**. Approved.

**Guest Presentations** Don Clifford came in to see about plowing. We all agreed with the guidelines discussed last month: plow only if frozen and more than 4 inches. To this Scott added no plowing after March 1 at the Town Forest. Scott and Don will replace the stakes this week.

Dan Kern updated us on the Bennett Island project. He wanted to know if the Commission wanted executory interest in the property. We agreed that would be an unnecessary step. Then Liz asked if a note could be attached that the first option be granted to us in case anything should happen to Bear Paw. Dan will check on that. Bear Paw is on track for purchasing the land by the December deadline and asked for a check from the town for our promised support. He will send a proposed draft of the easement and an invoice.

Dan also said that the possible conservation piece talked about in our July meeting is on hold. The owners are not in a position to do anything further at this point.

Dave asked Dan about activity on the Cooper property along Province Road West. Great piles of gravel are appearing and Dave was wondering if mining was permitted on conserved land. Dan will have Phil Auger check this out.

**DES Applications** Bartlett application, First Crown Point Rd. Liz presented plans for a driveway culvert to a house that will be built. The property encompasses the Blue Job parking lot. While we agree with the need for a culvert, we are baffled as to where a house could be privately located. Liz will contact the state to say we are in agreement with the plans.

Final comments Re: Farinella lot. Liz will put together a letter with our recommendation after our site walk last month. Basically we are concerned about too many docks in addition to our other comments made to Liz after the visit.

**Continuing Business**

**IRCR** Randy reported minimal storm damage to the trails. He said there were no trees down that couldn't be stepped over.

**Evans Mountain & Town Forest** Scott reported lots of debris. Water bars will need to be cleaned out again. He also thinks something needs to be done about the culvert near the gate on the Spencer Smith Trail.

**Other.** Discussion: There has been some minor clearing done on the other side of the stone wall that separates a part of the Blue Hills easement from Evans Mt Road, just south of the cemetery/parking area. The gate is open on our side of the road.

Mission Statement Proposal: Scott had written up a draft which we all liked. He will type this up for our discussion and approval.

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**New Business** Budget request for 2018 is due: We reviewed our request for last year and added in funding for signs and mowing

Bennett Island – see above.

NHACC conference reports:

Scott told of a new trail design computer program. It helped to locate trails to keep the habitats unfractured. He also attended a workshop on Bats.

Katrina attended one on Influencing our Legislature and one on Land use Planning.

**Other** We only have 14 days to respond to applications. Since we only meet once a month, this leaves a lot of time when we are unable to comment. Liz suggested that if there are more than 14 days until our meeting she will automatically email that we want to intervene to give us more time for considering the applications.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, December 4 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page