

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
March 1, 2010

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Al Pratt Dave Perkins Scott A. Young
Bruce Smith Kerry Omand

Guests: Tyler Martel and his Eagle Scout helpers and advisors, Charlie Moreno

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:10 pm. A motion was made by Al and seconded by Scott to accept the February 2010 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations

DES application none

Old Business

IRCR

Kiosk news: Tyler Martel presented the Commission with the finished kiosk that will be placed by the parking lot of the Isinglass River Conservation Reserve. The kiosk is being stored until the ground thaws and work completed on the parking lot. We thanked Tyler for his efforts.

Sign costs, final chance for input: Harmony checked with printers and found C & K able to do the work we wanted for \$150 for two laminated signs. Funds will come from the rollover account. Carolyn will print the final wording and send it to Harmony.

Evans Mountain

The "no hunting" signs have been removed. "No wheeled/motorized vehicles" signs may be put up.

Alternates and voting

We are awaiting a report from Cal Schroeder. Charlie says the Planning Board Chair designates the alternate at the start of the meeting **when necessary to make up a quorum**.

New Business

Weidman Lot access road bridge plan review: Charlie showed us the plans that were drawn up for the logging bridge for the Town Forest and asked for comments. He said we asked for it to be functional, long-lasting and aesthetic pleasing. We agreed to concrete bunkers, steel girders and wood decking - most probably pressure treated hemlock. There were six areas of concern: Al, having just been out to view the sight (**two days after the high water mark**), said that the water was presently higher than the new bridge flow space will allow. The bridge needs to be higher. The abutments will also have to be raised. Footing material needs to be checked. The pressure treating must be safe to use in water. Ends of the steel beams must be weather proofed. The opening for traffic must be at least 10 feet in width. We need to ask for Spec sheets.

Deborah Goard is preparing the wetlands permit for the installation of the bridge. It is hoped that the bridge work can be done this summer.

Small whorled pogonia: Charlie said that our forest is being used as a test for the light timber harvest affects on the plant. He said that the numbers are slightly down from last year, but the health of the plants is more robust. He will present his findings at an April 1 meeting at Fish and Game in Concord. There are plans to inventory the Edgerly lot this summer along with the Natural Heritage group.

Stewardship plan: Ellen Snyder sent in the final copies of the Stewardship plan for the IRCR. One copy will be kept at the Hill Library. We need to talk to contractors about putting in the parking lot. We will meet with Phil to stake out the area either on Tuesday, March 16th or Wednesday the 17th at 5:00 p.m. Final plans by email.

Commission Positions: Both Liz and Carolyn's terms are up.

Standing Committee Reports

Land Protection Group – nothing new

Managed Growth Group – survey is ready for voting and town meeting

Water Quality Group – nothing new

Summary/Adjournment

Next meeting date: Monday, April 5, 2010 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page