

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
September 8, 2008

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Jack Bronnenberg
Bruce Smith Dave Perkins

Guests: Scott A. Young Irene Abels

1. Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:05 pm. A motion was made by Jack and seconded by Harmony to accept the August 4, 2008 **minutes**. Approved.

2. Guest Presentations

Our two guests just completed the Coverts Workshop. Each graduate chooses a project to work on in town. Irene will be identifying any unusual species along the Mohawk River. Scott will work on the Isinglass River Conservation Reserve and the School District Land cataloging dragonflies.

Scott had a lot of photos that he made available for the slide show that was an attraction at IRCR festivities. They can be viewed by going to FLCKR and clicking on Scott AYoung.

On Thursday, August 28, a celebration to commemorate the signing of the Isinglass River Conservation Reserve papers took place. Starting at three in the afternoon participants went on a choice of four different hikes through the property. Thanks to all the commission members who helped not only with the day's festivities, but with helping to brush-out the trails. Waldron's store with a large tent on the front lawn was the meeting place for the nearly 100 participants. After the hikes, speeches were given and a buffet provided. The Trust for Public Lands awarded the Town of Strafford and the groups involved with this massive endeavor certificates of appreciation. Those groups included the Strafford School Board for a donation of a conservation easement on the Johnsonboro property, Randall Cooper and Candace Walworth's and Ed Cournoyer's donated conservation easements, and the Bedford gift of land to the town

DES application

Liz will endorse the papers for the bridge over Buzzy Run on the Northwood Road.

3. Old Business

The commission will pay \$2,300.00 for the new logging road that had to be built to comply with the Department of Transportation. The work has been done and Jack said that it was a good price. This money should be coming back to the commission as the logging is done. Jack said that some mulch and seed should be put on the road cut. Harmony will call Charlie Moreno about this. Jack suggested that we should have a sign at the site to let the town know what is going on. "Strafford Town Forest undergoing wildlife habitat improvement through sustainable timber harvest" was decided upon if we can fit it all on one sign.

MOTION: Carolyn moved that we spend not more than \$150.00 for signs for the town forest. Jack seconded. Approved.

Everyone is reminded that the full forest plan is available at the Hill Library.

Cookies: We have to wait to see if Harmony's tree will be usable as cookies for plaques.

4. New Business

Mowing the town forest field – Jack will ask some neighbors if they have the equipment and are willing to do this job.

5. Standing Committee Reports

Land Protection Group – need to meet to get started on the new work.

Managed Growth Group – first fall meeting is this Thursday, September 11..

Water Quality Group – nothing

7. Summary/Adjournment

Items for Calendar column: need for volunteers for the bio-assessment on the Isinglass, Mohawk and Nippo Rivers.

Next meeting date: October 6, 2008 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page