

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
January 2, 2012

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:08 pm. A motion was made by Harmony to accept the December 2011 minutes. Approved.

Guest Presentations

DES application Liz told of Cal Schroeder's meeting with the National Guard folks at Austin Cate about the historical value of some of the buildings. They also discussed the Guard's interest in making an integrated Natural Resource Plan.

Old Business

Evans Mountain - The town has received the grant checks. Discussion followed about the oversight of the property. While the property was being bought, the town needed to have executory interest in the matter. Now that things are settled, LChip needs to have the executory interest. There is no need for two entities to have that interest, but to rectify the situation it must come before the town meeting for a vote.

MOTION: Harmony made a motion to have the Conservation Commission craft a warrant article to ask the town to extinguish the interim executory interest on the whole of the Evans Mountain property. Seconded by Scott. Approved.

IRCR - By this weekend, Liz needs all the hours from all of us for the volunteer labor match for the Isinglass River Conservation Reserve. These hours will include travel to and from the site for the work day spent ripping out barbed wire, all trail planning & work, bridge supplies and building and the snowmobile club's installation of gates (Kerry), and anything else you can think of. The form asks for: date, name, tasks, and hours.

Town Forest – Eagle Scout project update Matt Dustin held the first workday on the Spencer Smith Trail November 12. They fixed one water bar and did some brushwork. Matt organized a pancake breakfast in December from which he made \$763.00.

Little Niagara Area site walk This is being postponed until February

Leopold Bench project Bear-Paw would like to co-sponsor the project. Approved by consensus. It will be scheduled for late June.

Possible Warrant Article As discussed earlier, the Commission wants to ask the town to allow funds from the Conservation Fund to be used for stewardship of the acquired lands. Liz will research wording used by other towns.

Other – Forest Bridge This needs to be built or we lose the grant funds.

Town Forest Parking Lot – In winter snow, the lower acreage of the forest cannot be used because there is no place to park. Harmony will approach nearby plow owners to see if one will volunteer to keep the space open.

New Business Work needs to start on the Annual Report. Harmony will begin, Liz will add to it. The warrants and report are due the day after our next meeting.

Adjournment

Next meeting date: Monday, February 7, 2012

7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

