

**Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
March 2, 2015**

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Dave Perkins
Randy Jacunski Bruce Smith Susan Barnes

Guests: Mimi Jost Phil Auger Don Clifford

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:05 pm. A motion was made by Harmony and seconded by Dave to accept the January 2015 **minutes**. Approved. There was no meeting in February due to blizzards two Mondays in a row.

Guest Presentations Don Clifford dropped by to discuss his plowing of the trail parking lots. He asked that if we noticed the Town Forest entrance being blocked by road plowing to let him know.

Phil Auger brought us two new maps from Bear-Paw Regional Greenways. The regional map shows the addition of the new B-P towns, Allenstown, Hooksett, Pittsfield and Barnstead. The other is the Town of Strafford. Both maps are coded to show conserved lands, prime wildlife habitats, wetlands, and agricultural soils among other things.

Continuing Business

IRCR Liz gave an update on the Dupee gift of land abutting the IRCR. The title research and deed preparation is in progress. Harmony will write a thank you note to them for this gift.

Evans Mountain nothing new.

Town Forest Sarah Ward's students at Coe-Brown Northwood Academy are making wood duck boxes for the pond at the Town Forest.

Rick Hodges has donated a first issue of "ReDiscover" magazine that he found this past summer. It has a nice article about Spencer Smith and Parker Mountain. Liz distributed copies of the article. We will see if it can be excerpted and printed in the Strafford Community Calendar.

Rick plows the parking lot at the base of the Spencer Smith Trail. Harmony will write a thank you note to him for doing that.

New Business

Russ Hunter of Bow Lake Estates would like to see the Conservation Commission follow through on the idea of creating a composting area for town residents which was floated in the Master Plan. He pointed out that people with small lots (mainly around the lake) have no place to put lawn debris. If pressed he will volunteer to help. He is aware of the challenges to be faced in trying to do this. Harmony will write about this in her Calendar article to see if there is wider interest.

Mimi showed us a sample map of town conservation lands that she found on a town website and thought it would be nice to have something similar for our site and to be sent out as an insert in the Calendar. It was suggested that we wait for Strafford Regional Planning Commission to update the GIS layer to include the Crooked Run project, but then decided that only town administered lands be shown. Maps can also be found at the Fish and Game website and Google maps which show conservation lands outlined in yellow.

Other Wednesday evening at 7:00 at the library Brett Amy Thelen from the Harris Center will give a slide presentation of the “Big Night”, the migration from winter habitat to breeding habitat of frogs, salamanders and toads.

Bruce’s wildlife camera caught a great picture of a bobcat eating a beaver carcass.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 6 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Calendar article ideas

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page