

Strafford Conservation Commission

March 3, 2014

Draft Minutes

Present: Scott Young, Randy Jacunski, Kerry Omand, Bruce Smith, Susan Barnes, Harmony Anderson. Liz Evans had to leave but left maps about a project.

Guests: Dan Kern, Kris Hales, Jacob Bridge

DES Applications: Liz showed us the maps and diagrams for the bridge that needs to be replaced on First Crown Point Road. It is one of the "red listed" bridges dangerous enough so it must be replaced. The state will fund some of the cost. Liz indicated that the application covers all wetland considerations. Bruce took the maps and will meet on Tuesday with Liz to discuss our signing off on the project

Dan Kern spoke about a new donated easement project, a property up on Evans Mountain Road of approximately 60 acres with frontage on both sides of the road. We set a date of Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm to meet at the property and have a look.

Kris Hales and Eagle Scout candidate Jacob Bridge were there to discuss his possible Eagle Scout project in helping restore old trails on Evans Mountain. Dan remained to help in the discussion. Jacob has a deadline of July 30<sup>th</sup> this year to complete the project, so after a lot of talk about possible trail paths, we decided that a reasonable goal would be for him to discover and restore just the section from the snowmobile trail to the ledges, a distance of about a quarter of a mile. Part of the project would also be to recreate the sign for the top of Evans Mountain that shows and names the hill and mountaintops all around the horizon. The order of work would be:

- A. We get in touch with George Lovejoy to discuss the project (This trail section is nearly all on Town property, but a corner crosses his.)
- B. Kris and Jacob reconnoiter the area looking for the old trail signs and flag and GPS the potential route.
- C. We have Phil Auger and/or Charlie Moreno (Scott you could help here) check the potential route to make sure we do not negatively impact sensitive areas.
- D. Jacob leads a Scout work operation to create and mark a narrow foot traffic trail and installs the sign on the Town portion of Evans Mountain.

Harmony will get in touch with George Lovejoy this week.

Scott submitted a maintenance plan for work on the IRCR, Town Forest, and Evans Mountain that he had prepared. (See his attachment.) Kris said that the Scout troops of Strafford and of Northwood would be excellent sources for help. Scouts are not permitted to use power tools but may use handsaws, hand pruners, and hatchets. Clearing the cemetery of brush at the Town Forest, for example, could be an excellent community service Scout project. They would also be excellent at invasive plant pulling.

We tabled the discussion of the Website until next month and reminded all to check other Conservation Commission websites.

Next meeting: Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

This is from memory everyone! Please forward additions and corrections. We missed you, Dave, Carolyn, and Liz.

Respectfully,  
Harmony