

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
June 4, 2012

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

Guests: Phil Auger Susan Barnes

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:03 pm. Susan was introduced to the commissioners. No minutes were approved due to the lack of a quorum at the May meeting and lack of copies of the April minutes for review. Both the April minutes and these, the June minutes, will be considered at the July meeting.

Guest Presentations

Phil Auger – Isinglass River Conservation Reserve work, needs to be completed in June.

Phil reminded us that we need to get the “match” information together for the IRCR deadline at the end of June. We need to add all the volunteer hours and if money is available, the parking lot needs another load of gravel.

Leftover plastic trail markers were given to us by JB Cullen and Bob Edmonds, the Discovery Trail Committee, for use on the IRCR trails.

The kiosk needs to be put up. Liz will see about getting a large map from Regional Planning. Harmony will see about lamination. Phil has the photo from which the map can be made.

The Meadows Trail will be blazed in yellow, Beaver Pond in white, Cattle Path in orange and the Foss Mill Trail in blue. All trails will be for foot traffic except for the Cattle Path which will be available for horses.

Work days are planned for the weekend of the 23rd and 24th of June. Phil says we will need three teams of people. We’ll need some young, strong people to carry materials. Harmony will check with Winnie and Sarah at Coe- Brown, Carolyn will check with Brett Wimsat. Phil will check with Richard Nelson about a back hoe to dig the holes. We will also need portable generators (Carolyn and Kerry), wheel barrows (Carolyn). Spray for invasives (Gordon Page).

Old Business

Town Forest

Construction of the bridge should take place in July if the rain stops. It has to be completed by the end of September. Charlie Moreno is taking care of this.

The student working with George Kitz has been clearing the weeds along the stone wall facing Parker Mountain Road. Harmony will write a letter for him if one is needed to get credit. Scott Young has been working with the shrubs near the Town Forest plaque (thanks, Scott).

The Eagle Scout aspirant, Matt Dustin, emailed to let us know that he has worked on four water bars. Scott has checked these out and they are working. Matt would like Harmony to reprint in the Strafford Calendar an appeal to town residents to adopt a water bar.

Evans Mountain

Scott reported that someone has installed large boulders adjacent to the cemetery on Evans Mountain thereby blocking access to where a parking lot will be located. This needs to be brought to the attention of the Selectmen. This is a trespass on Town property. Liz will talk to Steve Leighton.

Kerry said that the lock is gone from the gate on the woods road and a truck was seen driving on it. Phil will send Kerry a plan for a barrel lock. Kerry will see if funds for the new locks can come from a grant they are asking for. Liz suggested that funds could also come from Wetlands Mitigation since a number of swamp areas are disturbed by vehicles on this road. Harmony will talk to Mark West about this. Kerry will check to see if anyone got the license number of the trespassing truck.

A few signs need to be made and posted indicating the direction of the class six Evans Mountain Road and one to warn that a gate is located 500 feet ahead on the woods road. Harmony will talk to Dan Kern about this.

Ticks remain very numerous on the mountain.

IRCR See above

New Business

Harmony suggested a ceremony to thank the IRCR volunteers and introduce the town folk to the trails. This will be planned for August.

Other

Dates: Site Walks: for Kiosk placement – Wednesday, June 13 at 4:00, for barbed wire cutting, meet at 3:00. Meeting place for both is in the IRCR parking lot.

Next Meeting: July 9

Calendar Article ideas: Adopt – A – WaterBar.

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page