

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
August 5, 2013

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young
Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand Bruce Smith Cal Schroeder Susan Barnes

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:05 pm. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Randy to accept the July 2013 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations none

Old Business

IRCR

Cal's report about apple trees Cal went to the old apple orchard at the IRCR and recommended that we do nothing with the trees. He said that we have done the work by releasing them. The bittersweet needs to be kept in check. The maintaining of the open space of the orchard needs to be decided once the slash has deteriorated. In the fall, Cal will check back to see if any of the apples are a specific variety, but he thinks they are all wild apples on sprouted standard rootstock.

Other Harmony reported that the Bear-Paw Geo-caching event was held last weekend and said there were already a number of geo-caching sites on the property.

Randy reported some downed trees along the path, one big one on a bridge. He will take his chainsaw on his next walk to clear the bridge. No damage was done.

Evans Mountain

Wetland restoration work Harmony said that no problems occurred as a result of the missing paperwork that was needed to complete the restoration work. Mark never received the letter, but was working directly with the state. A walk will be rescheduled with the state to review the work. The DES paper work for Evans Mountain is now completed.

Old trail Restoration Nothing has happened yet. The woman with the knowledge is involved with the horseback riding activities at the camps and should be able to do the trails in a few weeks after the camp season. She and her mother will do the initial findings and is willing to work with Dave Foster and George Lovejoy on the trail linking Parker and Evans. She will also get the old maps from Camp Foss.

Town Forest

Bog bridge restoration Harmony brought in pictures of the deteriorating bog bridges on the Spencer Smith trail. She is trying contacting Jerry Bowman who made them to see if he is interested in helping to rebuild. Dave said he may have some of the pressure treated lumber from the IRCR projects. Liz said there may be some money depending on the amount needed for the forest road building.

Other Cal reported the reemergence of poison ivy along the stone wall at the town forest field. He will see that it is taken care of. Scott said that the trees need to be trimmed so the mowers can get closer to the trunks.

Community mulching report Carolyn said that the Merry Mulch program consisted of Christmas trees being picked up on two weekends in January for ten dollars each and brought to a place for shredding. The mulch can be used by whoever wants it including town, schools, etc. It was decided that the program would work better in a more urban area. Liz suggested that a mulching program that included all shrubs and grass clippings would be an asset to the town. Harmony will check with Deerfield to see what they are doing.

Other Liz had a notice to the town clerk about a mooring field off of the common area of Bow Lake Estates.

New Business none

Next Meeting: Monday, October 1 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Please note that there will be no meeting in September unless Liz has something urgent that needs to be voted. She will be in touch by email.

Calendar article ideas

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page