

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
April 6, 2014

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young
Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand Bruce Smith Susan Barnes
Guests: Mimi Jost Joel DeStasio Annette Schloss Don Clifford

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm. A motion was made by Harmony and seconded by Dave to accept the March 2015 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations

Don Clifford presented his final plowing bill for the season. He suggested that we have a more visible entrance to the Town Forest parking lot. We agreed, but no ideas were put forward at this time.

Joel DeStasio brought plans from Trout Unlimited for our approval. They plan to add shade and obstacles to the Isinglass and one of its first order tributaries by positioning logs in the river channels. These logs will come from trees cut more than 50 feet from the rivers and hand carried to the banks. They will be keyed into the bank so that high water will not wash them out. These will provide habitat for brook trout that they are hoping will come farther upstream. He is working with the land owners Scott Hodgdon and the Dupees. Natural Resources Conservation Service and West Environment are working with Trout Unlimited for this project. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Dave moved that we approve the plans. Harmony seconded. Approved.

Annette Schloss asked that we support her attempt to gain a grant from Toyota to further her Picture Post monitoring sites. The grant would be used to create a strategic plan for increasing the capacity of the picture posts and getting the public involved. She will write a letter endorsing the project for us to sign. Approved by consensus.

Continuing Business

IRCR – It's time for a garlic mustard pull. Mimi will contact the owners of the property abutting the IRCR asking permission to pull there as well. We will meet Wednesday, May 20th at 9:00. Mimi, Harmony, Carolyn, Randy and friends will be there. Harmony will put an announcement in the Strafford Calendar to invite other helpers.

The "no horseback riding" signs need to be placed. This will be done Tues, April 14 at 1:00. Harmony, Mimi, Carolyn, and Scott will do this. Dave has the aluminum nails for the project.

Randy reported a hemlock down across the trail on the Beaver Pond loop. He will bring a chain saw the day we do the garlic mustard pull.

Evans Mountain – Kerry said the snowmobile club wants to resolve the issue of the boulders that have been put across the roads on either side of Evans Mt. Road by Mr. Rowe. They would like to put a gate on the side road across from the cemetery. This is on the section of the mountain owned by George Lovejoy. Kerry will contact him for permission.

Town Forest – Timber Stand Improvement will begin in late April.

Scott presented his list of work needing to be done: Reblaze the Forest boundaries, Clean up remainder of bark near the Lilac bed, Install gate on the access road, reroute the trail on Edgerly, Maintain trail throughout forest, Clean out water bars on Spenser Smith trail, String trim field edges 3 times during growing season, Follow up brush hogging in the fall, Pull invasives on drumlin, Control Norway Maple, Remove Norway Maple in cemetery, Replace the Strafford Town Forest sign. These were discussed. No dates were set as yet.

Composting – No volunteers stepped forward for this project.

Hazardous Waste Collection is May 2, 8:30 – 12:30

Caswell Cove Shoreland violation: Neighbors complained that every tree was removed from the property that is completely within the Shoreland Protection jurisdiction. Liz will make a phone call to the agency.

NHACC – Liz called attention to the events suggested by the NH Association of Conservation Commissions and said there was a survey on email that we may want to fill out.

New Business – none

Bruce said there was no evidence of bobcats in the deep snow. His camera was removed.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 4, 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page