

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
July 7, 2014

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Scott A. Young
Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand Bruce Smith Irving Johnson
Guests: Cal Schroeder Mimi Jost

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:13 pm. A motion was made by Harmony and seconded by Kerry to accept the June 2014 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations Cal Schroeder brought a plant specimen that he thought might be endangered. Scott will visit the site with Cal to verify the identification. Cal's question was what is a landowner's responsibility if an endangered species is found on his/her property. Scott answered by saying that the landowner needs to do nothing. S/he owns the plant. One can check the website for the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau where listings by town can be found.

DES application none

Old Business

IRCR

Maintenance work The bittersweet needs to be checked. Mimi Jost will recheck the garlic mustard spread.

Evans Mountain

Mimi, Randy, Carolyn and others walked the trail with Dan Kern of Bear-Paw from the Evans Mountain parking area to the ledges. The logging roads almost hook up to the Spencer Smith trail. We will need to be in touch with George Lovejoy about trails. All of the above mentioned trail was on his section of the Evans Mountain property until it crossed onto Town Forest land. Liz also reminded us that the road issue needs to be solved. Harmony will call Greg Messenger about this.

Maintenance work none yet

Town Forest

Maintenance work – cemetery, Norway maple Scott pruned the trees so mowing equipment could be used under them. He also cleared the bark piles for easier mowing. Containment of the Norway maples was discussed. They should be pulled now, except that some of them are too big for that. Liz suggested that we find someone to cut the patch. Scott said it could be done with a handheld saw.

We still need to have a walk through the area with Charlie Moreno. Harmony will call to set up the time.

Scott asked about our goals for invasives. A discussion is needed.

New Business none

Other The yellow spots that are killing the ash leaves is Ash Leaf Rust. Scott says its alternate host is marsh grass and the spores are blown inland. Some of the trees are sprouting new leaves.

Dates: Site Walks _____ **TBA** _____

Next Meeting: There will be no meeting in August unless Liz has some DES applications. We will be notified by email. The next meeting will be Monday, September 8 at 7:00 pm. Town Hall
Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Enz Page