

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
March 7, 2016

Present: Liz Evans Harmony Anderson Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young
Randy Jacunski Kerry Omand Bruce Smith Susan Barnes Irving Johnson
Guests: Mimi Jost George Lovejoy Eric Rowe Daniel Kern

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:08 pm. The February minutes were amended as follows: “The Commission is overwhelmingly opposed to the proposal to allow the hunting or trapping of bobcats at this time.” A motion was made by Liz and seconded by Kerry to accept the February 2016 **minutes** as amended. Approved.

Guest Presentations

Eric Rowe Spoke with Kerry and George about gates for the snowmobile trail.

He then dropped off copies of a map showing where his intended buried power line would cross the Evans Mountain conservation property. He left before our discussion of the project. Dan Kern distributed copies of the warranty deed pertinent to the discussion. The conservation commission has only the authority to write a letter to Bear-Paw requesting that his proposal be put forward. It must be presented to the other stake-holders; the Town, LChip and DES.

MOTION: Sue moved that a letter be written to Bear-Paw Regional Greenways in support of Eric Rowe’s proposal to put an electrical conduit across conservation land to see if this action is allowable under terms of the agreement. Dave seconded the motion. Approved with two abstentions.

Sue will draft a letter and send it to Carolyn. Harmony will email Eric of our intentions.

George Lovejoy was present to voice his concern about the unofficial trail construction on Evans Mountain. He would like the placement of the official trail to minimize impacts to sensitive areas along the ridge. As a first step, the current flagging needs to be taken down and some appropriate signs be put up warning against trail blazing. Scott/Mimi will check the ridge area for sensitive habitats and survey for rare and uncommon occurrences of plants and animals sometime this spring. The map will be submitted to Bear-Paw and George for approval. Mimi and Carolyn will take down the flagging and put up warning signs.

Phil & Carolyn Auger are donating 90 acres to be put under easement. Dan Kern distributed aerial views of the property and the Conservation Project Budget. He asked if the Commission would pay for the transaction costs of \$15,750.00. This new property abuts the Auger property that is already in an easement and will bring the total conserved area up to 200 acres. A site walk is planned for Monday, March 14 at 1:00. Dan will let us know where to meet.

Continuing Business

IRCR Randy will check out a fallen tree on the Blue Trail. Mimi will let us know when the next mustard garlic pull will take place.

Evans Mountain Liz has spoken to Charlie Moreno about moving ahead with the forest plan.

Town Forest George Kitz has been paid for keeping the field area mowed for the 2014 and 2015 seasons.

Other MOTION: Liz moved that we continue to pay Scott out of the remaining money for the Town Forest project from NRCS for the work that he is doing for the Commission. Kerry seconded the motion. Approved.

New Business none

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Enz Page