

STRAFFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 6, 2023 MINUTES

PRESENT: Sue Barnes, Randy Jacunski, Liz Evans, Mimi Jost, Scott Young, Michael Ferber, Kerry Omand, Bruce Freeman (NH Lakes Assoc.), Kipp Freeman (Bow Lake Water Quality monitor), Veronica Bodge (Moose MT.s. Regional Greenways), Phil Auger (Greenways floater)

The meeting was called to order by Scott Young at 7:05 pm. Randy made a motion to accept the January minutes and Sue seconded. The motion passed.

GUEST PRESENTATION: Veronica Bodge (MMRG land agent) presented a conservation project on the Strafford/Farmington border (Shillaber). 25 acres of this 200 acre property lies in town. This acreage is rich in wetlands and supporting uplands. The SCC is interested in a soon to be scheduled site walk

OLD BUSINESS:

IRCR:

- No further vandalism (repeated posting of White nationalist stickers) at the IRCR kiosk in the last few weeks. Randy and others report many branches down and small trees overlaying the trails. Others also report an uptick in dog poop along Cowpath trail. May need signage as a reminder. The plowed parking lot is getting good use this winter.

Town Forest/Evans MT

- The public is accessing the forest using plowed parking area. Use is less than at the IRCR.
- The gate is open on Evans Mt. but the snow mobile club has not had the opportunity to do maintenance.

Other

- 2023 budget proposal has been submitted.
- Cons Com 2023 annual report accepted as amended.
- Membership re ups forms for 2023-Michael and Sue. Dave was not present.
- Site Walk review: Lake Shore Drive January 16th Around but not on Wilcox property looking at negative drainage issues caused by in fill of stream corridor. Several of these broad ephemeral stream corridors feeding the lake have been radically altered recently. They probably do not have any legal wetlands protections. We are currently at a loss as to how to proceed. They provide a service to the lake by producing cool clean water, reducing siltation and as a wildlife corridor.

NATURE NOTES:

Bluebirds about. The reported minimum temperature over the weekend was -18 degrees F per Mimi.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 6th, 7 pm Town Hall

Site Walk: pending

Recorded by,
Scott Young