

STRAFFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 5, 2024 MINUTES

PRESENT: Randy Jacunski, Scott Young, Debbie Liskow, Michael Ferber, Liz Evans, Mimi Jost, Sue Barnes, Kerry Omand

Guest: Krystal Balanoff, Phil Auger

The meeting was called to order by Scott Young at 7:04 pm. Debbie made a motion to accept the June 3rd minutes as amended and Randy seconded. The motion to accept passed.

DES application: none

GUEST PRESENTATION: Coveland Farm update presented by Bear Paw director Krystal Balanoff. Due to a lack of support from LCHIP, the costs associated with placing a conservation easement on the property have not been met and an extension of one year was agreed upon to find alternate funding. Initially the Conservation Commission pledged \$ 50,000.00 to the project. The funding shortfall is about \$ 60,000.00 and the end date is October 2024.

The commission reviewed all the benefits of conserving the property, the threat posed to Bow Lake of increasing incidences of cyanobacterial blooms and the importance of this property in mitigating disruption of Bow Lakes third biggest watershed.

An increase in funding of the project by an additional \$ 35,000.00 was proposed. The commission voted unanimously to support this proposal. Our total support has increased to \$ 85,000.00.

Trademark subdivision proposal presented regarding perennial stream crossing of Foss Brook on property adjacent to Coveland Farm/ Water Street. Presentation to Planning board on September 6th.

Other BUSINESS:

IRCR:

A tree hazard was reported around the Beaver Pond Loop Trail. Several members reported that it did not seem to need attention at this point.

STF/Evans/Parker Mts.:

Dying/dead ash trees continue to be removed from the front slope of the Town Forest as needed.

Other:

NATURE NOTES:

Adjourned: 8:05 pm

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 9th, 7 pm Town Hall Site Walk: none

Recorded by,
Scott Young