

Conservation Minutes for March 23, 2016

Present: Members: Jim Barker, Chairman, Rickey Poor, Dale Rook, Steven Wilkie, John Berry, Frank Parks, Jenny Schad, Corey Fitch, John Hammond Public: Reyer Jaarsma

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Jim Barker, Chair

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dale Rook and seconded by Frank Parks.

The minutes were approved as presented.

Ryer Jaarsma is interested in joining the Commission as an alternate. Jim explained the general responsibilities of the Commission and Ryer shared some of his expertise that he could bring to the Commission.

Dale R moved and Frank P seconded the motion to pass Ryer's name on to the Select Board to be appointed as an alternate. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Monitoring – Jim is working on a grant from the Claremont Savings Bank for \$3,300 to pay for three years of water monitoring. This would allow for nine water tests. A letter from the Select Board is still needed. We should know in June if the grant is successful.

Leo Maslan is interested in having the Boy Scouts work with the Commission on collecting the water samples.

It has been difficult to find any additional information from the KUA water study. No new material has turned up.

Town Meeting – Bill and Jenny Lipfert were surprised and honored to receive the Conservation Award this year.

The displays were well received and informative. Thanks was offered to those who helped make them.

The vote to make Gap Rd a scenic road was very close. Misconceptions about scenic roads need to be cleared up and additional education is needed.

Conservation members 2016 – Rickey, Jenny, Bill, Jim and Frank all have terms expiring this year. Frank will become a full member and Rickey will become an alternate. Corey F. moved and Steve W seconded the motion to make this request to the Select Board. The motion passed.

Election of officers – Rickey moved that Jim B. be elected Chair, Bill G. Vice Chair, Frank Parks Secretary and Corey Fitch Treasurer. Dale seconded the motion. After brief discussion the motion passed.

UVLT Dinner is scheduled for Tuesday March 29.

Monitoring – We hope to start earlier this year, perhaps in May. Jim now has the GPS boundaries for the Niedecker property.

White Swan Farm is on the market. There may have been a serious inquiry as Jim was contacted by the real estate company. Once it is sold the Commission will plan on meeting with the new owners. There was a brief discussion as to what the owners need to know and understand about easements in general and their easement in particular.

It is hoped that every Conservation Commission member will be able to walk at least one property this year.

Conservation Commission Members Book – It was suggested that we pull together a CC Members Book to be given to new members. This was agreed to and the following list of documents should be included:

- List of members
- Criteria for accepting an easement
- Conservation Commission Funds
- Natural Resources Inventory
- Scenic Rd procedures
- List of Cornish lands under easement
- Criteria for choosing the Conservation Award
- List of Conservation Award Recipients
- Wetland permit procedures
- Conservation organizations
- NHACC Handbook

Jim will work at pulling this together.

CREA – John H reported that Dale has said the beavers are very active. Also an unauthorized truck drove onto the back field and damaged a portion of it. This will need to be repaired.

Repair of the beaver baffle – Frank suggests that there be a maintenance day that is after the spring run off. The baffle should be reinstalled at that time and education signs posted.

Education – Frank agreed that he would do another “TickTalk” if a good weekend can be found. April would be a good month.

The Bobcat program went well and at least 25 people attended. There was discussion about the bobcat hunting season. Concerns were expressed about the process and that UNH and Fish and Game research was not really used to make the decision

Fishing Day – It was decided not to hold one this year but consider one in late May or early June of next year.

A motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Dale and seconded by Jen. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Rickey Poor