

Charlestown Conservation Commission meeting 25 Mar 19

Members Present: Dick Holmes, Jim Fowler, Dick Lincourt, Gabe Bailey, Sue Forcier,
Ruth Prat, Steve Neill (ex officio)

Alternate Members Present: Dean Bascom

Quests Present: Dawn Dextraze (Sullivan County Conservation Commission)
Vic St. Pierre

Called to order: 7:00 PM by Dick Holmes chair

Minutes of 18 Feb 19 approved as written

- 1) Dawn Dextraze did a presentation on the Sullivan County Conservation Commission working with the North Charlestown primary school on preserving and restoring the Eisner Apple Orchard. She has brought in orchard experts who will do a pruning class on April 13th from 9 to 11 and a work day from 11 to 12:30. Their plan is to prune, chip the clippings and use it to mulch the tree. Step 2 will be to bring in more plants: apple trees and perennial pollinators. Discussion on how the ConCom can support the effort with both volunteer work and financial aid. Ms. Dextraze thinks they will need around \$1500 per year at first, used for new plants, fertilizer and mulch. Steve Neill mentioned the wells for the village water is near the school. Much discussion.
- 2) Sams Hill Town Forest – Dick Holmes told Vic St. Pierre that we would like to purchase his property, but the town attorney is looking into Right-of-way questions that we have. Mr. St. Pierre read the Right-of-Way section of his deed. He will want a Right-of-Way across a corner of the property to log another lot he has. Discussion. We will get back Mr. St. Pierre once we hear from the attorney.
- 3) Reservoir Lot Timber sale – Dick Holmes sent an email to Jeff Snitkin, town forester, asking how the cut went. He was pleased as the loggers only had two weeks of cut-time this year but moved 40 loads of logs. They have not forwarded any money yet.
- 4) NRCS program for Reservoir Lot – Jeff Snitkin had an on-sight meeting with NRCS and the County Forester at the lot. They seemed pleased. Our plan has been forwarded.
- 5) Town Forest Ordinance – Dick Holmes passed out copies of the updated ordinance after he and Jim Fowler sat down with the police chief who added a list of the town forests and fine amounts to the Prohibited Uses section. The Selectboard will discuss this at the meeting on the 3rd Wednesday in April.
- 6) Great Meadows Trail workday – 27 April, 9:00 AM
- 7) Adopt-a-Highway – The ROTC will do their section during a school day. We will do our section 20 April, 8:00 AM.
- 8) Correspondence – Dick Holmes reviewed correspondence received since last meeting including:
 - a) invite from the chair of the Claremont Conservation Commission – they are holding an invasive species workshop at City hall on April 18th at 6PM.
 - b) Town Treasurer sent an email. Our CD was due. Dick Holmes had her roll it over.
 - c) Letter from DES about a Morningside Lane existing wetlands permit. Someone complained and it was investigated.
 - d) Letter from SCA seeking projects for 2019. Discussion. Jim Fowler will contact them about a bridge over the feeder brook on Halls Pond Trail.
- 9) Other business:

- a) Jim Fowler brought up BioBlitz. The UNH Extension wants to do Bioblitz in towns through the state. They will do a forest inventory in two towns. Discussion. Jim Fowler will sign us up.
- b) Dean Bascom and Dick Lincourt attended a lecture on climate change. Briefed us. One take away was that the next time the town updates the Master Plan we need to add a section of what we are doing to fight climate change.

Adjourned: 8:40 PM

Minutes submitted by Jim Fowler secretary

Minutes accepted by Dick Holmes chair

Dick Holmes

date