

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 11, 2012
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

Committee Members Present: Dave Connolly, Art LeClair, Kathy Spangler, Scott Kobbe, Randy Orvis, Laura Beard, Richard Ballou and Neil Johnson

Selectmen's Representative: Jim Horgan

Town Staff Present: DPW Director Scott Hazelton

Public Present: Rodney Thompson and Kari Lygren

At 6:00pm, Chairman Dave Connolly opened the meeting.

1. Review of Minutes:

Jim Horgan motioned to accept the minutes of 3-21-12 as amended, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried.

2. Discussion with DPW Director Scott Hazelton:

A. Conservation Trash - Scott Kobbe stated that he was wondering if a volunteer group of people can be created to pick up the trash that is on the side of the road specifically in and around the town's conservation areas. Scott Hazelton responded that people are certainly welcome to pick up the trash and then bring it to the landfill/transfer station and let the attendant know who you are and where the trash was found. Randy suggested starting some type of program with the convenience stores to promote not littering; like maybe litter bags with the store and Con Com logo on them. Scott H. will forward the names of bag vendors for the Commission to explore. A discussion was held that informational flyers to hand out to residents on the value of recycling to both themselves and the town. Art then suggested creating badges for Commission members so that they can be shown at the landfill when roadside trash is being brought down.

B. Poor Farm and River Road Trees – Scott H. explained that he has marked some trees on both Poor Farm and River Roads for removal because they are sticking out into the ditches or dead and are a hazard. His goal is to develop the ditches so that he can maintain the roads in a safer manner. The trees are marked with green tape and an orange X.

C. Fernald Park Trees – Dave asked if Scott H. is still on board to assist with the tree planting at Fernald Park on Arbor Day, April 27, 2012 about 4pm. Scott H. replied yes, they will have the holes dug and the equipment ready.

3. Final Prep for Public Forum with Kari L:

It was discussed that there is a projector ready to go and Art will bring his laptop. The scouts will arrive at 5:30pm to help set-up chairs and then will come back after to help clean up. SRC and

MMRG are going to bring refreshments. The program will be videotaped so that it can be broadcasted at a later date. Kari suggested making personnel calls to the landowners that were sent letters and Art volunteered to make the calls. Art also suggested placing the fliers at the landfill and the library.

Art LeClair motioned to switch the order of the next two agenda items, 2nd Jim Horgan. Motion carried.

4.FHS with Mr. Chamberlain:

Mr. Chamberlain explained that he has not had any students in his ecology class interested in working with the Commission unfortunately. Art explained the Commission would like to establish a relationship with the students in the community and wondered what can be done to entice the relationship. Mr. Chamberlain explained that he would like copies of the town conservation maps so that he can familiarize himself with the properties. He also invited any of the members to his classroom to speak about the Commission's goals and vision. Jim asked Mr. Chamberlain if he can give the Commission a list of what his curriculum encompasses so that the Commission can help come up with ideas that will fit into it.

5. Discussion with Rodney Thompson:

Mr. Thompson provided the members with resources he gathered regarding mapping and perambulation of town boundaries. The Commission was in consensus that they are interested in working with Mr. Thompson to map the town boundary lines and create a town perambulation report. Randy suggested someone go to the Lee Town Hall and look at the one they have because it is a really good example of what one should look like.

At 7:41pm, Jim Horgan motioned for a short recess, 2nd Laura Beard. Motion carried.

At 7:53pm the Commission reconvened.

The Commission with Rodney decided that the five corner marker would probably be the best place to start. This outing is planned for June 3, 2012 with a 7am meeting at Honey Dew Donuts.

6. Community Garden Update:

Kathy informed the Board that the Farmington Democrats have drafted by-laws that the Selectmen approved and will be meeting tomorrow to solidify them.

7. Hay Day Update:

Art stated that he filled out the document for the fur identification kit and ordered the bracelets. Dave asked if he thought we would need 3 spots and Art replied yes.

8. Arbor Day:

Dave reported that he ordered the trees and the total cost was \$572. Dave suggested everyone wear their Commission t-shirts. Kathy is going to look into ordering a banner from vistaprint in time for

Arbor Day. Art suggested having the Arbor Day and Conservation Commission logo on the banner along with Arbor Day, Farmington NH. *Neil Johnson motioned to expend up to \$200 on a banner for Arbor Day, 2nd Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.*

9. Town Forest:

Dave reported that he and Randy Tetreault from Norway Plains have been unsuccessful getting the boundary line agreement signed by the abutter, Mr. Lawrence. *Jim Horgan motioned to have Dave contact Mr. Lawrence and invite him to a meeting to discuss this boundary agreement along with Randy Tetreault (noting there would be a cost for his presence), 2nd Neil Johnson.* Discussion followed where Randy asked what will be resolved at this meeting and Jim explained that it is important to get everyone in the same room so the agreement can be signed. *Motion carried with all in favor.*

Dave provided the members with an expenditure sheet for the costs associated over the past year for the Town Forest survey/boundary project. So far, the project is \$1500 over budget.

10. BH Keith Associates Update:

Dave informed the Commission that a check in the amount of \$7549.96 was received for the revenues from the timber harvesting. This gives the Commission a net of about \$19,000 for the timber harvesting of the Dubois and French properties. Also another check for \$7, 669.53 was received tonight, also from the timber harvesting and the project is not yet complete.

11. Commission Elections:

Jim Horgan motioned to nominate Dave Connolly as Chairman, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried with all in favor.

Jim Horgan motioned to nominate Randy Orvis as Vice-Chairman, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried with all in favor.

Kathy Spangler motioned to nominate Laura Beard as Secretary, 2nd Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.

12. Any Other Business to Come Before the Board:

A. Dave read a letter from CMA Engineers informing them of plans to create handi-capped ramps along the school tiger trail. The Commission will do a review and comment in May so if members want to view the area of the next few weeks that would be great.

B. Dave reviewed the Intent to Cuts that have come in over the past few weeks and they will be on file in the Commissions cabinet for review.

Accepted 5-9-12

The next meeting is May 9, 2012.

At 9:01pm, Randy Orvis motioned to adjourn, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger

Recording Secretary

Chairman, David Connolly