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**TOWN OF FARMINGTON  
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, August 14, 2013  
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

**Committee Members Present:** Dave Connolly, Randy Orvis, Sarah Cantwell, Neil Johnson and Scott Kobbe

**Committee Members Absent:** Art LeClair (excused), Josh Carlsen, Richard Ballou (excused) and Tyler Smith

**Selectmen's Representative:** Jim Horgan

**Public Present:** Rodney Thompson, Kam Damtoft, Jillian Hall and Deb Cantwell

**At 6:30pm, Chairman Dave Connolly opened the meeting.**

**1. Public Comment:**

None

**2. Chairman's Comment:**

All the members thanked Sarah for her participation in this Commission as a student representative and wished her the best as she leaves for college. She was presented with balloons, a card and cake for all her service to the commission.

**3. Review of Minutes:**

*Jim Horgan motioned to accept the July 10, 2013 minutes as amended, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Connolly. Motion carried.*

**4. Hay Day Final Preparations:**

Kam Damtoft of Strafford Regional Planning Commission and Jillian Hall of the UNH/4-H program came forward to finalize plans for their Hay Day participation. Kam stated they would have a display and information about how to get involved. Jill stated that they would like to do a balloon activity, as well as, put out 4-H member information. Scott stated that he would bring the tables down from Taylor Rental. Dave reported he got a quote for the balloons as requested for \$120 for the helium and no charge for the balloons from Taylor Rental. The Commission agreed it was a good cost but decided to forego the balloons for this year.

**5. French Property Proposal Review:**

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Dave drafted a written proposal for the hiking trail through the French property that was previously laid out for approval by this Commission and then submission to NH Fish and Game for final approval. Richard Cook gave permission via email for the trail and parking lot establishment along with the kiosk placement. *Randy Orvis motioned to approve the hiking trail draft as proposed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.*

Dave also met with Steve Yurick today and he is pointing together an estimate on the cost to install the kiosk.

#### **6. Blue Job with Art L:**

*Dave Connolly motioned to table until next month, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.*

#### **7. Smith Property:**

Dave stated that after several attempts the members have been unsuccessful in removing the graffiti and he wonders if it should just be left to nature. Jim stated he would like to contact Bruce Carr to see if he will bring his pressure washer out and try to remove the paint.

#### **8. Old Business:**

**A.** The young lady, Savannah, who the Commission sent to the 4-H camp provided a display of her adventures at camp. Scott read the letter she wrote to the Commission explaining her experience and thanking the Commission for sending her. It sounded like she had a great time and the Commission would like to offer the scholarship again next year for one to two kids.

#### **9. New Business:**

**A. French/River Rd** – Dave reported that the camera at this location was stolen by someone who thought to bring a ladder and bolt cutters. Lucky, the Commission had two cameras in the area and the culprits were caught on camera. That footage has been given to the police department and they are investigating the theft.

**B. 2014 Conservation Volunteer** – Dave asked the members to be thinking of who they would like to give this award to next March.

**C. 2014 Arbor Day** – Dave asked the members to be thinking of a place to plant trees next Arbor Day.

**D. Grants** – Dave provided the members with some information about a grant that is currently available. Dave suggested concentrating on creating a management plan for the Town Forest with the grant monies if they were awarded. Jim suggested the annual cutting on the Dubois property would be a good idea as well. *Jim Horgan motioned to authorize Dave to contact BH*

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*Keith to put together one to two grant proposals for the discussed projects, 2<sup>nd</sup> Randy Orvis. Motion carried with all in favor.*

**10. New Business:**

A. On Saturday, September 14, 2013 the Strafford Rivers Conservancy is hosting a dinner.

B. Randy reviewed the Intent to Cuts with the Commission and they will be filed.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2013.

*At 7:30pm, Jim Horgan motioned to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Randy Orvis. Motion carried with all in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger

Recording Secretary

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Chairman, David Connolly