

Francestown Conservation Commission
Francestown, NH

Minutes

May 7, 2012- 7:30 at town office meeting room

Meeting came to order at 7:35PM

Members present; Betsy Hardwick, Don Crooker, Don Shuffleton, Jenna McCleary, BJ Carbee, Kris Holmes, Polly Freese

Announcements- Hardwick attended the program on Hemlock Woolly Adelgid held in Deering. She reported that trees are treated both systemically and with dormant oil sprayed on foliage. Beetles are also being released which eat the adelgids. Most infested trees are on the edges of roads and lawns.

New Business- Minutes from March 5, 2012 were approved unanimously.

Hardwick informed that Steve Walker from LCIP will be doing the easement monitoring for the Hill and Varnum properties this year. He has invited ConCom members to join him for the monitoring walk.

Survey mailing- Surveys were completed at the 3 conservation plan workshops this winter/spring for use in updating the town Master Plan. FLT has offered to add the survey forms as an insert to their upcoming mailing, and will cover the postage if ConCom will pay the cost of printing the surveys. The board agreed unanimously to pay the \$240 to print the surveys.

Trail work- Robin and Ben Haubrich have cleaned up the Summit trail and loop. Some of the signage is missing. The bridge on the Link trail needs to be replaced. Steel beams could possibly be used for the frame with wood planks on top. The Dinsmore trail big loop needs clipping. It was decided to wait until June to plan a day for this work.

The board decided to defer the annual election of officers until the June meeting as not all the officers were in attendance.

Mike Tartalis attended and spoke of his concern regarding cutting the bank and trees adjacent to the Shattuck property and building a parking lot. He stated that the warrant article only mentioned cutting the bank and trees to widen the road, not build a parking lot. He stated the town should not cover the expense of building a parking lot. Hardwick clarified that the town is not putting in a parking lot. We already have a parking area, but this area will be encroached

upon when the bank is cut and new drainage is installed. As we will be losing our current parking area during the town road project, they need to provide us with a parking area. In addition, the grant we received for this easement requires that we have an area to park and that we have public access to the trail into the property.

A spill site was found on the Brien property located on Wilson Hill Rd. It was reported that there were oil drums found on the property. Hardwick went to the site and confirmed the report. It appears that someone illegally dumped the oil drums. DES has also been informed and the owners have been sent a letter informing them of the need to clean up the site.

Old Business- Kingsbury Hill Farm- Closing was completed on Phase I

The water quality workshop was well attended.

GRANIT has a new site which is easier to use and more complete

Hardwick has received the seedlings for the FES seedling program. We will be distributing American Hazelnut and Nannyberry to the students.

Invasive species- Rand Brook Confluence project and CM- There are not many licensed agents in NH who can treat invasive species. The NE Wildflower Assoc. is not licensed in NH. Dan Cyr is licensed and DES will also send some names of contacts that may be able to help us. Fish and Game small grants may have some money available for this project.

Crooker motioned to adjourn, Freese seconded. Meeting adjourned 8:47

Minutes by Kris Holmes in the absence of Bob Lindgren