

# Fracestown Conservation Commission

## Fracestown, NH

### Approved Minutes

July 1, 2013

Members present: Polly Freese, BJ Carbee, Scott Heath, Betsy Hardwick, Don Crooker, Chris Danforth, Kris Holmes

Meeting came to order at 7:32PM

#### **New Business**

Henry Kunhardt came before the board to present plans for a dock on Pleasant Pond. The plans call to rebuild within the same footprint of the old dock using existing boulders, and ledge with footing for the base. The size will actually be reduced from over 1000 sq. ft. to 576 sq. ft. He noted that the adjacent boathouse, which was taken down will not be rebuilt. The board agreed unanimously to support the application.

Pleasant Pond Dam- Henry Kunhardt gave a brief summary of issues which have been identified regarding the dam at Pleasant Pond. The dam is on the Hill property. The dam is deteriorating which will eventually affect the water level of Pleasant Pond. Reconstruction of the dam might cost \$50,000- \$100,000. The Hill dam is listed as a non-menace dam; (as opposed to high hazard-loss of life potential, or low hazard-potential for property damage but no loss of life) therefore the State bureau has no authority to regulate it. They do have a responsibility to watch the dam. The possibility of grants to help reconstruct the dam was discussed, but at this point in time most grants available are for the purpose of removing dams rather than reconstructing them. There might be a land and water conservation grant which is used to repair dams associated with recreation, but there would need to be at least 10 resident owners on the pond willing to sign a petition to acquire the dam and take responsibility to pay for the repairs. This seems unlikely as most properties on Pleasant Pond are seasonal.

Pleasant Pond- possible violation- It was reported that the Hacketts were removing weeds from the bottom of the pond with a mechanized tool. Danforth believed it was being done by hand, and hand raking would be allowed.

Pleasant Pond-permit for road work- Chris Danforth recused himself from the board to present a plan for improving a 1250 ft. section of Pleasant Pond Rd adjacent to Pleasant Pond which includes replacing culverts, installing a retaining wall in an area which is vulnerable to erosion, paving and installing a future boat ramp with concrete panels. At this time there are no funds

set aside for the boat ramp, but it was included in the plan as it can be added in the future if funds are approved. The board was in favor and will draft a letter in support of the plan.

Crotched Mt Town Forest Draft Management Plan- It was noted in the plan that stand 8 suffered serious damage from the ice storm and the 2011 October snowstorm. The cut in this area would be salvage and used for chips. This area is south of Joslin Rd.

FLT Land Protection Project on Old County Rd North- FLT has signed a purchase and sales agreement on the Herman Miller property which abuts the Dinsmore property. It is about 37 acres. FLT would appreciate support of the Con Com board. Letters of support would be helpful to them in obtaining grants. Heath felt that the best case scenario would be for us to own this property outright and annex it to the Dinsmore property but we have no funds. The next best thing would be to donate to the project and take executory interest. This would insure continuing access rights regardless of what happens in the future.

Joan Hanchett Nature Series- The status of this program is uncertain. Hardwick will check to see if the committee is still working on programs for the future.

Invasive Species Control- Crooker presented plans which were written up by Jeff Taylor. The cost for treatment to the Stewart property (includes cutting, herbicide and permit) is \$2590.00 The cost for the former Crotched Mt Ski trail area is \$1000.00 phase 1 (includes herbicide application), \$2100.00 phase 2 (includes selective mowing with a tracked skid steer) The board agreed to hire Jeff for the invasive species control of the Stewart property at a cost of \$2950.00

NRI Conservation Plan update- Lisa Murphy sent a letter to the board regarding the "Community Assistance Program", which can help us with various projects. There is no fee for us as they are funded by a grant. The board decided the program might be helpful with implementation of the plan and outreach activities. There are still some changes to make on the plan, but it is almost complete.

Pedestrian bridge on the Link Trail- crooker has located new contacts who may be able to get us telephone poles to uses for the bridge reconstruction. He will check on this.

Minutes of April 1, 2013 were accepted as written.

#### **Other Business-**

Freese asked about the markers for the Summit Trail. Hardwick has ordered markers and they will be installed.

Crooker motioned to adjourn the meeting, Danforth seconded. Meeting adjourned 9:22PM

Respectfully submitted, Kris Holmes