

Fracestown Conservation Commission

Fracestown, NH

Approved Minutes

October 7, 2013

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

Meeting came to order at 7:32PM

Announcements & Notices

Pleasant Pond wetlands permit for roadwork has been received.

The special permit from NH Dept. of Agriculture Markets and Food arrived for the invasive species treatment on the Stewart property.

The Forest Society sent a letter to the ConCom board reminding us of the monitoring reports needed for the Hill and Varnum properties.

We have received the CM forest management plan back from Ron Klemarczyk with changes. He suggested a culvert on Bullard Hill Rd, however Hardwick noted that there is a vernal pool in that area, so Ron may have been there at a time of year when this was not obvious. Hardwick will inform him about this. Other suggestions in the plan included installing water bars on Russell Rd and salvage and over story removal in stand #8. We have also received the invoice for the CM forest management plan from Ron in the amount of \$5600.00 for the plan and \$194.40 for mileage expenses.

Betsy H has been approached about leading after school hikes for the elementary students and will follow up with this.

New Business

Trail issues: CM black gum loop- Sections of the boardwalk are rotted. Ben Haubrich suggested to Betsy H that good board sections be utilized and moved so that part of the area can still be accessed instead of using it as a whole loop. An evaluation will be needed to see how much good board is still left to utilize.

Trail issues: Signage- Directional signs on some trails have disappeared again and Ben Haubrich has replaced them again. On a good note, there have been many positive comments about the signage.

Trail issues- Dinsmore- John Stewart, the Shell Rep at CM Resort had put cable up across the access road. He thought ConCom had not fulfilled their responsibility to install a gate. After speaking with Betsy H, he realized there had been a misunderstanding and the cable was removed. Ben Haubrich and Betsy H are going to put up new tyvek access signage. Some brush cutting is needed on the trails. Ben offered to adopt the northern end and keep the trails cleared. This started a discussion about adopting sections of trails to maintain, which could be a useful idea. Betsy will write an article for the Frankestown News about this idea and ask if anyone might be interested in adopting trail sections to maintain.

SPNHF- We have received the invoice for \$10,000 for the stewardship fee and it will be paid.

NH fish & Game Community Assistance Program- Amanda Stone will be attending our meeting on November 4th to discuss what we are doing with our Wildlife Action Plan and help us with implementation.

The walk with Ron Klemarczyk scheduled for October 6th was rained out. Ron offered to come back on October 27th to lead the walk, same place, same time. The board agreed to accept his offer and also to offer to pay him for his mileage expenses for this event.

Easement Monitoring Walks- The board decided to split up the properties among board members instead of the whole group going to each property together for the annual monitoring, and also to announce that the monitoring walks would be done during the month of November instead of setting a particular date. Letters of notice will be sent out by October 23rd and owners will still have the option of accompanying the board member on the walk of their property by calling Betsy Hardwick to co-ordinate a time with the board member.

Old Business

NRI/Conservation Plan update- Pete Throop will invoice us for \$3400.00. We can then apply to get reimbursed from the Moose Plate Grant.

H. Miller Land/FLT Project- Grant applications to LCHIP and other grants have been submitted.

Brennan Brook/Bullard Hill Project-Several grants have been submitted. Schott has signed a purchase and sales agreement with FLT and the price is under the appraised value.

Pedestrian Bridge on Link Trail- Jeff and Betsy have done more repairs and we are still waiting for the telephone poles to be delivered.

Invasive species project- Jeff Taylor came out last Thursday and Friday (Oct 3rd & 4th) and worked on the Stewart property.

Minutes for August 5, 2013 were approved as written.

Freese motioned to adjourn the meeting, Shuffleton seconded. Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted, Kris Holmes