

Fracestown Conservation Commission

Fracestown, NH

Approved Minutes

December 2, 2013

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

Other attendees: Linda Kunhardt

Meeting came to order at 7:36PM

New Business

Linda Kunhardt spoke about changes to wetland district setbacks on the state level. As these changes seem to be set now, there is a need to update the wording in our town ordinance to make it conforming. New language for some of the town ordinances was discussed and Linda will work up drafts with the new language and present it to the board at a future meeting. Linda also discussed possible changes to ordinances of petroleum storage and the board discussed this.

Education and Outreach Programs- The board discussed the possibility of scheduling the program "Understanding Bobcats in NH" at the end of January. This might be done through the Joan Hanchett Nature Series. "Gardening For Wildlife" might be a good program for spring (March) and then in April/May, Hardwick suggested finding a property owner in town who was interested in an evaluation of their land for the purpose of wildlife habitat improvements and then having a walk on that property led by a wildlife habitat educator.

Hardwick informed the board that Ben Haubrich suggested a winter tracking hike in the Dinsmore Conservation District on Sunday January 26 at 1PM. This would be sponsored by FLT and maybe PLC.

Bicknell Trail Flagging- Hardwick updated the board about the trail flagging noted at the last meeting. Betsy Hardwick, Paula, Barry Wicklow, Don Shuffleton and the person who did the trail marking had a meeting about the concerns of trails in this area. It was decided that there will not be a trail put through this area. The reason for the trail was to fulfill a grant requirement, but the trail will be built on another property.

February Full Moon Hike-Hardwick informed the board that Ben Haubrich suggested that the hike be held on the 9th as that is the closest weekend night to the full moon. The board

discussed the fact that the 9th is on a Sunday and might not be a good night for the hike. Betsy will check with Ben to see if he had meant to suggest Saturday Feb 8th instead.

Wetland on Journey's End Road- Barry Wicklow used this property as a match for the Miller/Avery Brook grant. We need to do an easement on this property. The board decided that a more restrictive easement would be a good idea to protect this sensitive ecosystem.

Old Business

Stephen Leavitt picked up his signed permission letter. He also sent the board a letter, letting us know how the trapping was progressing.

Trail Issues- CM, Black Gum loop, trail adoption is on hold until the spring

H. Miller Land/FLT project- There have been a couple grant approvals, but still waiting on LCHIP

NRI Conservation Plan- We are still waiting on Pete Throop to finish the natural resource inventory.

Pedestrian Bridge on Link Trail- Don Crooker contacted Jamie Marcou who is supposed to be delivering the poles. He had forgotten, but said he would deliver 6 poles this week. Betsy said the poles need to be a minimum of 35 feet to be usable for this project.

Invasive Species Project- This has been completed and the bill has been paid.

Other Business

Hardwick reported that she has seen a few spots of garlic mustard in town. It looks like a mustard plant with white flowers. It is a very prolific invasive species.

Minutes for November 4, 2013 were approved as written.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM

Respectfully submitted, Kris Holmes