Francestown Conservation Commission

Francestown, NH

Approved Minutes

February 3, 2014

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

Other attendees: Barry Wicklow, Ben Haubrich, Robin Haubrich

Meeting came to order 7:30PM

New Business

Avery Brook/Miller project, Schott/Brennan Brook project- ConCom had planned to contribute \$8000 towards the Avery Brook/Miller project but due to an oversight, ConCom was not listed on the easement deed and the closing date was too close to correct the paperwork. Therefore, as we were not listed on the deed, we cannot donate any money. Barry Wicklow came to ask if ConCom might consider donating that money to the Schott/Brennan Brook project instead. Heath motioned to take the \$8000 previously pledged to the Avery Brook/Miller project and add it to the \$12,000 we had already pledged to the Schott/Brennan Brook project, bringing the total contribution up to \$20,000. Shuffleton seconded. All in favor.

Draft Easement for 10 Acre Lot on Journeys End Rd- The board reviewed the draft easement for a 10 acre lot on Journeys End Rd. Holmes motioned to approve, Heath seconded. All in favor.

We need to hold a public hearing for Schott & Herman Miller project access easement. Hardwick suggested we should have a draft for the easement written up for this meeting which will include the access easement. We will hold the public hearing at our next regularly scheduled ConCom meeting on March 3rd 2014.

Duck Boxes- The board decided to clean out and repair the duck boxes on the 8th or 9th of February. Hardwick will notify board members of date and time.

Old Business-

Hike- A winter tracking hike was held on January 26th which was well attended and enjoyed by all. There were a few people on the hike who had not participated in town hikes before.

Trapping update- Stephen Leavitt notified the board that he was successful with trapping beaver, especially in the Dinsmore area.

Ben Haubrich informed us that Caleb Marshall was available for projects, maybe helping with duck boxes or re-signage of trails.

NRI conservation Plan Draft- Pete Throop finished the draft, but there are some errors which need to be corrected. Hardwick has been working on corrections. Ben Haubrich has been correcting the tables of conservation land.

Hikes/Educational Events- Hardwick informed the board that there will not be a full moon hike this year as the timing of the full moon is mid-week and if done on weekends before or after will not be light enough due to timing of rise and set of the moon.

Hardwick proposed a hike through the 10 acre black gum swamp on Journey's End Rd, possibly in April. It might be interesting to have a plant or wildlife specialist lead the hike as there are a lot of interesting plants on that parcel. Hardwick will speak with Linda Kunhardt about this.

The possibility of a vernal pool hike was also discussed.

Minutes- Minutes for December 2, 2013 were approved as written.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36PM

Respectfully submitted, Kris Holmes