

Fracestown Conservation Commission  
Fracestown NH  
Approved Minutes

April 6, 2015

Members Present: Kelly Marshall, Scot Heath, Kris Holmes, Betsy Hardwick, Don Crooker, BJ Carbee, Polly Freese, George Sanderson

Meeting came to order 7:35 PM

**New Business-**

Review By Laws- The By Laws were briefly reviewed and the board will consider until the next meeting. We will hold a public hearing when we are ready to adopt changes.

Youth Program Update- Dana Wood is planning to create an interpretive trail with the help of students. The board needs to review properties and find a property that is fairly accessible with some interesting features. After brief discussion, it was decided that the Quarry loop could be a possibility or the Lord Forest might be a nice little loop.

Short Term Conservation Plan- Hardwick handed out a draft of the Short Term Conservation Plan for the board to review. We will discuss in more detail at the next meeting.

**Old Business-**

Seedlings- They have been ordered. Hardwick ordered Nine Bark which is a dense shrub and good for nesting. If not available, the 2<sup>nd</sup> choice is American Plum.

Duck Boxes- The duck boxes were cleaned out thanks to Don Shuffleton, Betsy Hardwick, Jeff Tarr and Paul and Kelly Marshall. One box looked like there had been a successful hatch, 2 boxes had feathers/eggs/evidence of attempted use and 2 boxes had no evidence of use.

Annual Monitoring- There are still a couple reports that need to be completed.

Plant ID Hikes- Linda Kunhardt is willing to do a hike May 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>. We will let her choose the time. Proposed location is to start from the boat landing on Pleasant Pond Rd and head towards Deering.

Other Programs-Squam Lake has a speaker that could do an owl program. We can consider this again later in the spring.

Duck box construction project- Marshall reported that Scott Jenkins has completed the duck boxes. There was discussion about holding a program about ducks/water fowl. Fish and Game and also Coverts trainees do programs but are very booked up.

Earth Day- Freese will check to see if there are still blue bags at the library. Bags will be available at the library, PO and Town Offices starting Monday April 13<sup>th</sup> and roadside clean-up will be extended through the end of April. BJ will send out an email when the time gets closer.

**Announcements-**

Marshall suggested that the Coverts program be done during vacation week so the timing is accessible to teachers.

Freese reported that the owlets on the Cornell web cam have flown the nest, but there is now a web cam on a Barred Owl nest and also a Barn owl nest.

Holmes asked board members if they would prefer minutes emailed to them before the meeting so they have time to read and consider instead of taking time out of the meeting to read them. All agreed this would be a good idea.

Carbee started a brief discussion about whether a Town Forester would be beneficial. The Forester evaluates how much timber tax the town will get. Currently each project hires an independent forester.

There was some discussion about the timber harvest being done on Fisher Hill Rd. It is being done by Mario Pelletier and this is of concern as when he did the timber harvest on Poor Farm Rd it changed the course of the stream and caused issues. Hardwick is going to go look at the Fisher Hill Rd timber harvest as it is adjacent to a wetland/stream. Although the town has no jurisdiction over timber harvesting/wetland issues, any concerns can be referred to the state.

**Minutes-**

Heath moved to accept minutes as corrected. Marshall 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Minutes approved.

Crooker motioned to adjourn, Freese 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 8:36PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Holmes