

Francestown Conservation Commission

Approved Minutes 8/24/15

Special Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM.

Members present B. Hardwick, G. Sanderson, P. Freese, BJ Carbee, D. Shuffleton, D. Crooker, S. Heath K. Marshall

Barry Wicklow presented a DES wetland permit application to replace a woods road culvert on the Miller property on Avery Road. He explained that the culvert replacement is the final part of an ARM grant requirement and that the culvert will improve water flow and conditions for aquatic organism passage. Some discussion followed. Hardwick made a motion to accept the conditions to expedite, and sign the application. Heath seconded, all in favor. Hardwick signed all copies of the application.

Paul Bolduc, an 8th grade science teacher from GBS has reached out to area Conservation Commissions to see if there may be a need or interest for projects/field studies for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class. They used to work with Otter Brook Farm and the Harris Center but this year the Harris Center had to cut back their program and so field opportunities are limited. Mr. Bolduc feels that it might be nice to involve the students within their community. All agreed this would be a good thing to do. Some of the suggested studies or projects were; Water Quality (pH, Turbidity, Temp, Conductivity etc), Macro invertebrates (diversity and populations), Tree ID / Woolly Adelgid, Invasive Species, Tracking (identification and populations), Fungi (types and distribution). There was discussion about various projects and locations and it was agreed that perhaps the Rand Brook area would be a good location with plenty of opportunities for various studies and projects, and also easy access. It was agreed that the Lord town forest could also be a good location for an interpretative trail or studies. Barry Wicklow is interested in helping if dates and times work for him, and will be in touch with Mr. Bolduc. It was also suggested that perhaps a local forester or other forestry professional might be able to work with the class. Kelly Marshall has already spoken to Mr. Bolduc and will follow up with him.

Carbee said she has been approached about using funds from timber harvests in the town forest for the Town Hall project. Hardwick said as it was a town meeting vote that established that income from harvests was to go to the conservation fund that it would require a town meeting vote to change that. She added that she recalled that the only area ready for a harvest was essentially a timber stand improvement project and the forester had not been sure it would even bring in enough to cover costs.

Freese asked about the pipeline issue related to forwarded email information from NHACC - some discussion followed. It was left that if anyone wanted to express an opinion they could do so as an individual.

Marshall noted that she has been pulling lots of invasive purple loosestrife plants.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM

In the absence of Kris Holmes minutes by Hardwick