

Fremont Conservation Commission
Fremont Town Hall
Fremont, NH

May 2, 2016
7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Bill Knee, members Janice O'Brien, Leanne Miner, and Leo Danjou, Open Space members Denise Howland, and Sam Harris, and Recording Secretary Casey Wolfe

This meeting was live broadcast on FCTV channel 22.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Knee called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 7 and April 4, 2016

Ms. O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes of March 7th, 2016. Mr. Danjou seconded that motion with all in favor.

After Ms. Miner made two small edits, Mr. Danjou made a motion to approve the minutes of April 4th, 2016. Mr. Knee seconded this motion with all in favor.

III. CONSERVATION COMMISSION INFORMATION

- A. TREASURER'S CC ACCOUNT REPORT - no new account made available for this meeting.
- B. RECENT MISSED OPPORTUNITIES DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS FY15 (NO BUDGET)-
INFORMATIONAL

V. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Duane Hyde (SELT) - Horsburgh Property Update - Hyde is applying to another grant program called the Aquatic Resources Mitigation Program (ARM) to help fund all the transactional related costs of SELT taking ownership to the Horsburgh property after the WRE easement is in place. He remains optimistic and hopeful that WRE will come through and the ARM program only comes around once a year so he has prepared the necessary pre-application. NRCS is getting the property appraised and the report is due in June. There was some discussion about whether or not this would need to be voted in by the Town. This would be a good question for the Town Administrator.

B. Dennis Howland (Open Space) - Oak Ridge North Vandalism - Mr. Howland and Mr. Harris joined the Commission at 7:15 PM. Mr. Howland explained to the Commission that the Oakridge North trail had been vandalized. The metal blazes between post 5 and a corner of the Cordes property were torn down. He estimated approximately 35 to 40 blazes have been torn down. The cost of the damaged blazes and nails is approximately \$15.00 plus the labor to pull out the old nails and secure the new blazes. He further noted that we have to special order new blazes, there are minimum order quantities and we might expect to spend \$100.00 for the blazes alone. Mr. Howland believes he can get them back up within the month.

He has filed a police report on the vandalism to keep them informed.

C. Dennis Howland (Open Space) – Smith Trail – Mr. Howland updated the Commission that part of the Smith trail is roughed and flagged in. He is trying to make the trail as ATV-proof as possible. We are still waiting on Phil Auger and the Southeast Land Trust.

D. Dennis Howland (Open Space) – kiosk locks – Mr. Howland reported the MASTER locks left him a little concerned. He also noted the following:

1. Outdoor locks go from \$13 up. Master has a stainless steel one for \$24. Sesame has a solid brass for \$16 and change.
 2. Outdoor locks need to be protected from the elements. Spraying with a lock lubricant or DW 40 couldn't hurt.
 3. Master locks get criticized for having only one notch on the shackle and you can find videos on YouTube on how to break them open. A Sesame lock has notches on both side.
 3. Master locks are painted die cast vs sesame solid brass.
 4. Sesame negative reviews seem mostly to do with setting or changing the combination. Evidently, if it's not done correctly (pressure on the pin) you lose the old combination and don't know the new combination resulting in a puzzle with 10,000 possibilities. Some people complained they needed their reading glasses to see the numbers.
 5. All use some kind of a pin which you engage to set a new combination. You have to keep track of the pin, BUT someone with the combination and without the pin cannot change the code.
 6. How hard do we want to make access? If just trying to keep mildly vandalous individuals honest, then maybe any lock will deter them enough. If we were protecting something "valuable, then maybe spending more for a lock makes sense. So from Amazon, Master lock with numbers for \$10.40, and with letters \$14, while the Sesame solid brass with numbers was \$16.20.
 7. Keyed locks, although you can buy "SETS" of locks that are all keyed the same, 5 may be a tough number. AND you may not be able to buy replacement keys.
- Mr. Howland is looking for any comments and is willing to do more research, however, he believes the combination locks would be better than the key locks.

He offered the following sites:

http://www.amazon.com/Sesamee-K436-Resettable-Combination-Combinations/dp/B001C4TEKU?ie=UTF8&colid=2IQHARDR2VRTW&coliid=I2BIWXYKUQK6FQ&psc=1&ref=wl_it_dp_o_pd_nS_ttl

http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0009V1WMA/ref=wl_it_dp_o_pC_nS_ttl?encoding=UTF8&colid=2IQHARDR2VRTW&coliid=I3K6AX9Q68YDFY&psc=1

http://www.amazon.com/dp/B004FN1KW0/ref=wl_it_dp_o_pC_nS_ttl?encoding=UTF8&colid=2IQHARDR2VRTW&coliid=I24X72RA107CMF&psc=1

http://www.amazon.com/dp/B004FN1KW0/ref=wl_it_dp_o_pC_nS_ttl?encoding=UTF8&colid=2IQHARDR2VRTW&coliid=I24X72RA107CMF&psc=1

After some discussion about signs and blazes, Mr. Howland and Mr. Harris left the meeting at 7:35 PM. Ms. O'Brien made a motion to take up to \$110 from the Forest Management Fund for 6 brass combination locks. Ms. Miner seconded that motion with all in favor.

E. Phil Auger - Wildlife Camera Recommendation - What Mr. Auger would buy for a trail camera right now:

<http://www.trailcampro.com/collections/wildlife-video-trail-cameras/products/bushnell-aggressor-hd-no-glow>

Mr. Knee explained that we have discussed purchasing a wildlife camera in the past but have not acted on it. What are some reasons for purchasing one and do they warrant the expenditures?

1. To get a handle on trail usage
2. To monitor for vandalism

3. To capture wildlife video for use on our Facebook page/town website

Ms. Miner thought it made sense to capture wildlife footage, however, it would be tough to look through all of the footage. Ms. O'Brien thought it would be good to monitor who is vandalizing the trails – but the wildlife would be the most interesting. Mr. Danjou brought up that all of these things can be done simultaneously. Mr. Knee mentioned that we would have to be careful where the camera was placed. Ms. O'Brien made a motion to table this topic. Mr. Danjou seconded that motion with all in favor.

F. An Invitation to the 2016 Lakes Congee (June 2nd and 3rd) arrived.

G. The NHDES Drinking and Groundwater newsletter arrived.

VI. OTHER: The Members will also hear any other business to come before the Commission.

A. Mr. Danjou, as promised, printed out the two trainings provided by the Stewardship Network – one for monitoring volunteers and one on monitoring easements. Ms. Wolfe will keep these materials in the office for the next generation of Conservation Commission members.

B. Leo Danjou has been sworn in as new Commission member!

C. NHACC Dues - Paid

D. Smith Trail – Mr. Knee brought up that there is still no official name for “Smith Trail.” Naming the trail “Barred Owl” was a good option because there was already a sign made up with that name. Ms. O'Brien thought it would be good to recognize the Smith Family. Ms. Minor brought up that there could be information about the family in the kiosk. Mr. Knee said that the history could be printed on UV-resistant ink. Ms. Minor made a motion to use the “Barred Owl” trail name. Mr. Danjou seconded that motion with all in favor. Ms. O'Brien said that she would write up the dedication to the family.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE: June 6, 2016

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:16 PM

Bill Knee, Chairman

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