

Fremont Conservation Commission
Fremont Town Hall
Fremont, NH

November 7th, 2016
7:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Bill Knee, members Leanne Miner, Pat deBeer, Leo Danjou, and recording secretary Casey Wolfe.

Also present: Dennis Howland, open space member

I. Adjournment

Mr. Knee opened the meeting at 7:05.

II. Minutes

After making some changes, Ms. Miner made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Knee seconded that motion with all in favor.

III. Business

A. Open Space

Mr. Howland read through some comments as follows:

Barred Owl Trail – READY FOR BUSINESS

- Signage is installed
 - “End of trail” posts at northern boundary with Kelleher on both east and west side. Town Forest Ordinance sign on one side and map and explanation of where the trail resumes on the other side.
 - Arrow sign on the west end of Barred Owl on Island Road.
- Barred Owl Trail name and arrow sign at Forest Loop and Island Rd intersection and at North end of Woodland at the East end of Barred Owl.
- Painted blue blazes and pink ribbons should make trail available for all activities until metal blazes installed.
- Some final “finishing and cleaning” to be done. A couple of logs to be removed, or trimmed.
- RIBBON BUTTING – should make PR event.
- Expenses to date = \$18.52
- Future expenses –
 - Metal Blazes – Although we have about 100 blue left, some of these are destined for Oak Ridge South Marsh Trail and the “mud hole” bypass. We will need close to 250 metal blazes for the Barred Owl Trail. Trail is over a mile long. Blazes every 50’ in two directions adds up to 210. Voss will let us order quantity of 250. They did not quote but it will be more than the \$.30 each we paid for the 500 of the last buy. (Estimates \$100 to \$110)

- Garrison Intersection Kiosk/sign board – We will only have one arrow sign left (unless we recycle a March Trail Arrow), and we are essentially out if SS security screws. Voss arrow signs are \$6 each (\$12). Security screws and washers are about \$.80 each. A quantity of 25 would be \$20. We would also need a couple of posts to mount the sign board, \$16. So about \$50. Of course this could change based upon SELT actions.

NO ATV signs

- Have not been ordered yet. 12 X 12 plastic are \$4.25 each. Also recommend at least a couple of NO MOTORCYCLE signs. We would put one of these on the gate on the Cooperage Trail at the Beede Rd entrance. (5 in ORN (Pst 1,2,3,4,6), 3 in GO, No Moto – 1 in Coop, 1 in ORN (pst 6)) 12 = \$51
- We also need some “backing” and hardware to mount these. Many of these locations have metal posts, and we will need appropriate HW. We will also need to FAB backer boards in order to protect and mount. This could require additional materials. (12” is problematic in that either requires sheet goods or fabrication.) HW \$3-\$4 each for about \$40.

Fall Hikes

- All four were conducted. Attendance was disappointing though Open Space members enjoyed the walks. Did bring folks on some “trails” that went beyond the town forest trails. Barred Owl Trail was well received. Did accomplish goal of publicity but did not get too many new faces into the woods. Last hike into Horsburgh had 13 attending.

SELT

We should still try and meet with SELT. Being allowed to clear a path through Kelleher remains desirable, and we still are interested in a Garrison connection. Also, we should make sure they are aware of cooperage Town Forest, trails and parking so they may take that into account for any future plans for Horsburgh. If we get their cooperation, we might end up taking down the posts that are there and recycling them.

Boy Scouts

Boy Scouts have shown renewed interest in “reclaiming: mud hole bypass. They need 3 hours of community service. If approved by CC, Sam and Dennis can put up blazes and then let scouts CLEAR A PATH. Would also want to move that arrow sign that is at Tavern/Meetinghouse intersection, and move one from Marsh trail to other end of this bypass.

Future expenses:

- Metal Blazes - \$100 - \$110
- No ATV signs – 12 @ \$4.25 = \$51
- HW – misc for mounting NO ATV signs. @\$3 = \$36 (probably less since ORN posts wooden)
- Security screws (qty = 20, kiosk = 10,) buy 40 @ \$.60, plus washers @ \$.20 = \$32
 - Subtotal = \$229
- Arrow signs – buy 4 @ \$6 each = \$24 (2 for kiosk and 2 for Island Road if ever)
- Garrison Kiosk – two, 4x4 posts = \$14.75
- Total = \$267.74

Does not contain any provisions for updating Maps. Might wait until we see what SELT may commit to do vis a vis Garrison.

Mr. Knee asked if Mr. Howland has any expenses from this project that still need to be covered. Mr. Howland felt that the trails are marked well enough to be followed for now – no reason so spend any more money on this in 2016. There was more discussion about this. Ms. Miner made a motion to approve \$280 to be used for trail maintenance materials from the Forest Management Fund. Ms. deBeer seconded the motion with all in favor. Mr. Howland left at 7:56 PM.

B. Variance at 19 Brentwood Drive

Mr. Knee updated the Commission on a pending variance for a garage at 19 Brentwood Drive. At the last meeting, the Commission advised the ZBA on placement of this garage. Mr. Knee went on the ZBA site walk and looked at the wetland and garage site and does not feel that it would impact the wetland. Since there is basically no pitch from the current driveway, there wouldn't be any runoff from the proposed garage. Mr. Knee will write a letter to the ZBA stating that the Commission has no objection.

III. Correspondence

A. Duane Hyde

Mr. Knee read some emails to the Commission concerning Nick Brett's property. Mr. Hyde has had preliminary discussion with Mr. Brett about the possibility of putting a conservation easement on Mr. Brett's forested lands and fields.

B. West Environmental Assessment

Pat deBeer reported we are missing OrthoMaps from the assessment. Ms. deBeer felt that since the commission paid for the assessment, the Commission should have access to the OrthoMaps. The maps were listed in the Table of Contents, but were not provided.

C. Letter from DOT

The Commission looked through a letter from the DOT notifying the Commission that the DOT will be doing work on a culvert near a wetland.

D. Galloway Variance Application

Ms. Wolfe presented to the Commission an application that Mr. Galloway has filed asking for a variance so that he can construct detention ponds within the 100-foot setback of a wetland. Mr. Knee looked at the tax map and noted that the wetland in question is prime wetland number 16. He felt that Evan Lewis at the DES Wetlands Bureau should look at the plans before the ZBA makes a decision. Ms. Wolfe was not sure if the Wetlands Bureau had been notified yet. Ms. deBeer felt that the Lamprey River Watershed Advisory Committee should also be notified. There was some discussion about what should be written on the comment sheet. The ZBA public hearing for this application is on November 15th.

IV. Adjournment

Mr. Knee made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 PM. Ms. Miner seconded that motion with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Casey Wolfe
Recording Secretary