

Fremont Conservation Commission  
Fremont Town Hall  
Fremont, NH

Present: Chair Leanne Miner; Members Cindy Crane, Pat deBeer and Selectmen's Clerk Kathy Clement.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Miner called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. There is a quorum at the meeting tonight.
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ms. Crane made a motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2019 as amended. Ms. deBeer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous 3-0.
- C. REPORT OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES – Member Business
  - 1. Administration –
  - 2. Calendar of Events and Announcements
    - a. April 6 Saving Special Places – Prospect Mountain High School, Alton NH. Mr. Cooper will be attending.
    - b. June 7 Forest Management Training – UNH Cooperative Extension will hold their training in our forest. This will be a great place to have their training with an older Forest Management cut to compare to on that is being done presently. (Friday)
    - c. May 4, 2019 Litter-Free Fremont Clean Up and the Garden Club will be doing spring cleaning that day. There will be a cookout at the library that day. Last year the Conservation Commission and Open Space set up an information table at the cookout. This was led by Dennis Howland. Ms. Miner will follow up to see if he has interest in putting this together again this year.
    - d. May 18<sup>th</sup> will be Town Bulky day and the Garden Club will be having their garden sale that day.
- D. REPORT FROM OPEN SPACE – Proposed project listed – Not updates.
  - 1. Lengthen the Depot Trail extending it back toward the Library.
  - 2. Tavern Road – mud holes maintenance.
  - 3. Fall Foliage Hike to Loon Pond.
  - 4. Trail map updates for kiosk
- E. UNFINISHED (ONGOING) BUSINESS
  - 1. Amphibian Crossing – There is a video that Ms. Miner will forward to the Commission members and to FCTV for presenting on TV and Vimeo for residents who would like to learn about amphibian crossings. Ms. deBeer and Mr. Knee went to a seminar regarding amphibian crossings. Ms. deBeer informed the Commission that this should be happening within the next two weeks. She gave an overview of the information that was shared at the seminar. They stressed the importance that reflective vests **must** be worn, and they recommended that anyone without a safety vest should not

stay as safety is very important. Ms. deBeer gave a list of items that is recommended to have when out recording the amphibian crossings which is totally weather dependent usually 40 – 43 degrees and rainy. The list of items recommended is warm clothing, rain gear, extra socks, headlamps, flashlights, blinking light, clip boards and pencils. Also, a bucket with low sides (must be very clean) to help identify species as they are moved across and a spatula to remove the dead frogs from the road (to keep from counting twice). If this goes well and the Commission decides to do it again next year, they will look at buying supplies to reuse yearly. Ms. deBeer said that the seminar showed how to recognize species and the State Non-Game Wildlife is keeping track of different types. She stressed that it is important to keep data as this is something that may help in the future with information about which species use the vernal pools in town. Ms. deBeer handed a few books around on vernal pools for the members to see. She stated that the Wood Frogs would be the first to be seen and also shared an interesting piece of information that she learned which is that the salamanders can live up to 20 years. The Commission members are watching the weather and ready to go on short notice. Ms. Miner handed each member maps of the Fremont roads and wetlands to help with their planning.

2. Invasive Species – Ms. Crane will be overseeing this project. She will choose a date and details of completing the project. She will research how to dispose of the invasive species once removed and speak to Ms. Carlson regarding the options for disposal. The Commission discussed some of the dates and projects already scheduled in April and may need to schedule another time.

3. Town Forests – Ms. Miner presented an Income report from the second phase of the Glen Oaks Forest harvest. The income to the Town was \$18,256.00 and at the end of last year there was about \$7,500.00 remaining in the Forest Management Budget. There was a question if Charlie Moreno was paid before the total check was written to the Town, Ms. Miner will follow up on this. There was some discussion about moving on to Oak Ridge North, Mr. Moreno suggested we do some forest management there and recommended we prepare some maps instead of a full Forest Management Plan. Ms. Miner will ask Mr. Cooper to investigate this further with Morino. Ms. deBeer does not want the Commission to make a decision without Mr. Knee present. The Commission will table this to the next meeting. There were some questions asked that members will need to discuss at the next meeting also. Do we want any other work from Moreno forestry? Ms. deBeer stated we must do a new Forest Manage Plan. Money from the Forest Management Fund may be used for trails, however Ms. Miner stated that best practice is to use for forest management. Ms. deBeer questioned what the money can be used for. Ms. Miner stated the money can be used for projects such as trails.

4. Natural Resources Inventory – Ms. Miner will meet with Jenn Rowden on Wednesday to get a scope and cost to update all maps including updates to chapter in Master Plan. Also, any other Master Plan updates needed. Ms. deBeer mentioned that if we are going to rewrite the Master Plan could we choose to have Theresa Walker write that plan, Ms. Miner will recommend this to Jenn Rowden.

5. Short video at the meeting about “the Big Night” to inspire us to go searching has been or will be forwarded to the group.

<http://www.natureminute.com/2012/05/amphibian-crossing/>

F. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS AND LAND USE COMMENT SHEETS –

Ms. Miner reported that she attended the Board of Selectmen meeting Thursday March 28, 2019. Ms. Miner spoke at the meeting explaining that the Conservation Commission worked with the State NHDES regarding the wetland mitigation process for the wetlands disturbance to occur during upcoming work on Shirkin Road. The Selectmen signed the letter acknowledging that work may be done within 20’ of Town owned property. The applicant will be moving to the next phase of permits including NHDES Alteration of Terrain

G. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. deBeer went to a seminar called “Start making maps with LiDAR”. She gave a brief overview of the seminar. Ms. Crane stated the information from LiDAR was very accurate. Ms. deBeer will submit an expense reimbursement slip to the Town Administrator and Ms. Miner will sign to approve it as there are funds in the operating budget for trainings.

There was a brief discussion about voting for Commission positions and Ms. deBeer recommended waiting until all Commission members were present. This will be moved to the next meeting.

H. NEXT MEETING:

The next regular monthly meeting will be on May 6 at 6:30 pm.

I. ADJOURNMENT Ms. Miner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. Ms. Crane seconded the motion and the vote was 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Clement  
Selectmen’s Clerk