

Conservation Commission Meeting

October 27, 2016

Meeting Date: 10/27/2016

Secretary: G. Wigler

Location: Gorham Town Hall

Attendees: Mike Waddell, Mike Pelchat, Steve Malespini, Doug Gralenski and Gail Wigler.

Guests: Jeff Schall (former Gorham Selectman), Sally Manikian (Conservation Fund), and Larry Ely (Shelburne Trails Club)

Meeting Called to Order: 5:33pm

Meeting Adjourned: 7:05pm

Minutes

ATC Application

Sally Manikian and Larry Ely joined the meeting to hear about the Commission's progress on the ATC application. Mike W. passed around copies for review. Members were tasked with additional work; Gail will verify historic facts with the Forest Service archeologist, Mike P. will provide a description of the working relationship AVSAR has with the town of Gorham and the State, Jeff will take additional photos of Gorham and insert into the application with captions, and Mike W. will then put this information into the application.

Larry Ely discussed the development and progress for creating the Shelburne trail map. The map is at a 1:24,000 scale and is printed on water-proof Tyvek paper. The front depicts the trails and the back provides a history and description of each trail, thus eliminating the need for an accompanying guide book. Production of the maps were funded through grants and private individuals. One thousand maps were printed at a cost of \$4,700 with an additional 500 maps printed in the second production. So far 200 have been sold and all profits go to the Shelburne Trail Club. The GIS and cartography cost about \$1,500 with an additional \$300 spent on the logistics to get the maps printed.

For the application, Mike W. wants to keep the details of the map very general since we haven't reached an agreement on how display all the recreational trails and services. Mike W. also wants to further research what local schools are doing in terms of "Trails for every Classroom" to see if it is applicable to the application.

Gorham Town Forest

The Tinker Brook parcel (2,050 acres) is owned by the Conservation Fund and is adjacent to the Paul T Doherty Memorial Forest. A portion of the Perkins Brook watershed is located on this property. This parcel was previously owned by Yankee Land Company and was heavily harvested. It's in current use with a value of \$50.00/acre. Mike W. is a member of the Town Forest Committee and would like to see this parcel purchased and added to the Town Forest. He asked the board members for a vote of support for this proposal.

Motion: Doug Gralinski made a motion for the Town Forest Committee to look into purchasing the Tinker Brook parcel from the Conservation Fund and have it added to the Town Forest land base. The motion was seconded by Mike P. The motion was unanimously passed by the Conservation Commission.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is set for December 1, 2016 at 6:00pm. The goal is to have the ATC application complete.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm