

**Hanover Conservation Commission**

Minutes, November 10, 2015

Present John Trummel, Peter Christie, Ed Chamberlain, Hugh Mellert, Bill Mlacak, Vicki Smith, Ken and Norma Milkie

Meeting started at 7 pm.

**1. Snowmobile Permit for Trail 37**

- Ken and Norma Milkie were present to request permission to use snowmobiles on Trail 37 in Marshall Pressey Brook Natural Area.
- The commission will take action on this request in the form of a recommendation to the Town Manager to sign the permission form. The signed permission slip was passed around for review.
- The permission may be cancelled with a 30 day notice, and can be given for 1 year, 5 years or indefinite or any another term.
- The snowmobile club is willing to share the trail with skiers.
- The trail in question is an out and back, but could become a loop trail if connected to a trail owned by neighbors. They will be contacted for permission to use their land for both pedestrian and snow machine use.
- The snowmobile request is under discussion because typically no motorized vehicles are allowed on town trails.
- Milkie has put in a gate and a bridge. The gate prevents access during summer from motorized vehicles.
- Normally, the gate will be left open when the ground freezes. Town will lock and unlock the gate. Gate keys are currently at DPW.
- Some discussion about term length: 1 year vs 5 year vs indefinite.
- Motion made to recommend approval for a 5 year term by Hugh. Seconded by Bill. Motion passed.

**2. November 10 Minutes**

2nd paragraph of Current Business, 2nd last sentence amended: ... to use the available funds from the Trust fund if the neighbors want to donate the balance of the cost.

Motion to approve as amended by Hugh, second by Ed, motion passed.

**3. Indian Ridge Power Line Project**

Jim was to review a project to improve the power line from Wilder Dam to the Access station along Gile Road. The line will cross the Indian Ridge property where Hanover holds a conservation easement. The Town was not notified. Jim spoke to Mark Goodwin at the Lebanon Planning Office. Nothing to review yet.

**4. Hayes Farm Park Hunting Policy**

The Hunting Policy was reaffirmed by the Selectboard to be no hunting. There is no distinction in the past discussion on this issue between the upper and lower areas of the area. A request was made for \$10 for signs to post. The existing deer stand has not been removed. The management plan will have further recommendations by next year.

There was some discussion about protecting the rare lilies in the area, if they are being eaten by deer. It was suggested that some additional fencing be allocated from the next schedule purchase.

## **5. Next Minutes**

Whit Spaulding for December, John Trummel for January, and then restart the alphabet.

## **6. Trails Committee Report**

Bill reported on the Trails Committee meeting which has just taken place. The membership has been confirmed. Time has been changed to 4 pm still on the second Tuesday, but at the Howe Library instead of the Rec Center. John Taylor was concerned about debris on the Pine Point trail area. John had submitted the Quabbin to Cardigan grant application, and should have a response in 2 or 3 weeks. There had been a successful Ridge Trail work day on November 7. A site visit for Maple Trail improvements was scheduled for Thursday at 9 am. Notice was posted on the town office window and upstairs cork board. Rory Gawler had attended to present Dartmouth trail projects. Bill distributed the proposed trail sign for the Moose Mountain parking lot – some minor text changes were provided. For Pine Park, there is still a site visit scheduled for December 7. The amount of work may change depending on the condition of the abutments. The erosion repairs at the 13th hole worked well – maybe similar ones could be done. There was some discussion about the Trails committee materials stored as Google docs. They can be used as a reference but not for any discussion.

## **7. Tanzi Tract Report**

Peter and Vicki relayed status of Tanzi Tract cleanup. Initial efforts were obstructed by a tree and then a car in the driveway. After that there was a return to court. As of yesterday, the Town is waiting to hear about what type of action can be taken if interference continues. The Town is trying to avoid any injury and costly litigation. Any materials on town land are being moved. There will likely be 10 to 12 more truckloads of material to remove.

## **8. Stewardship Committee Report**

Nothing to report – the meeting was cancelled.

## **9. Other Business**

- Vicki is doing easement monitoring. The only remarkable situation is regarding a new structure at the Dartmouth Organic Farm. The purpose of the structure is unclear.
- The trail from Wilson Landing going south needs to be cleared. There is heavy brush and some holes. Bill will add this to the Trails Committee job list.
- Bill suggested distribution of the Commission packet by email. All present agreed to give it a try. Vicki will try email for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Mlačak