

LYNDEBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

December 13, 2018

In Attendance: Sharon Akers, Greg Kreider, Lucius Sorrentino, Theresa Berna, Kurt Berna

Absent: Kris Henry, Mike Decubellis

Balance as of as 10/31/2018 = \$10, 743.45

Meeting minutes:

Oct 11 - Sharon motioned to approve, Greg seconded, all in favor

Oct 29 – The following language was added to provide reason for decision on vote:

“The warrant article was rejected as a majority of the committee felt that it might be disadvantageous to present 2 articles at one town meeting and by postponing for a year would give more time for public outreach to support the article.”

Vote: Greg motioned to approve the minutes with modified language, Sharon seconded, all in favor

Mail:

The New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) send a mailer for their membership campaign with a fee of \$200. This is a useful resource and the commission would like to support the organization.

Vote: Kurt motioned to allocate \$200 for a NHACC membership, Lucius seconded, all in favor

NEW BUSINESS

Fundraising:

Kurt and Theresa presented the idea of holding a trail or road race in town to raise funds for the commission. As race directors of the “Ghost Train Trail Race”, a successful fundraiser for the Brookline and Milford conservation commissions, they thought that this type of event could also be an effective revenue source - especially in a rural environment. The Ghost Train event raised approximately \$26,000 for the commissions from race registrations and donations.

Source of revenue, provides visibility for Conservation Commission, and gets residents involved in a community event

Requirements

- permission for use of public and private lands
- EZ-ups, tables, water jugs, signage
- Timing

- Registration

Some of these items could be borrowed from Milford con com for initial years until we have income to purchase items in future. There are on-line services for registration to simplify the sign up, handling of funds, and provide exposure to the running/outdoor community.

Next steps

- explore a possible route focusing on dirt roads and trails that highlight Lyndeborough features
- determine the best time of year to hold the event (and could it be a lead up to another popular local event)

Vice Chair position:

Discussion of a Vice Chair role to support the Commission Chair and to provide the capacity to hold meetings during the Commission Chair absence.

Vote: Sharon motioned to nominate Greg Kreider for Vice Chair, Lucius seconded, majority in favor

Wildlife Habitat Letters to Landowners:

Construct a letter to landowners to inform them that their land has been designated by NH Granit at UNH and NH Fish and Game as one of the Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitats in New Hampshire and encourage the landowners to take measures to manage and protect their land. The letter also informs that landowner that the commission is an available resource for advice and connection to a county forester. The letter would be accompanied by publications (provided by UNH) that provide information and resources about:

1. Managing the forest (encourage engaging a forester)
2. Managing property for wildlife (habitat management)
3. Land conservation planning and options (contact with land trust)

Greg presented a town natural resources map that identified high/low priority land areas and nominated initial properties to send brochures to.

The town is comprised of roughly 120-130 parcels owned by 85-90 different people. The initial target is to send the letter and brochures about the habitats (provided by UNH) to 25 landowners with a focus on land with the highest natural resource value.

The commission selected 25 properties. Greg will pull landowner addresses for the properties and create a cover letter based on Wilton Conservation Commission version and review with Lyndeborough commission members at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 8:33