

Chairman Sam Demeritt called the meeting to order at 7:10. Other members in attendance were Deb Kimball, Noel Carlson, Celia Abrams, Raelene Shippee-Rice (alternate), and Susan Mooney. Shippee-Rice was seated for Cheryl Smith.

Minutes: The minutes for December 10, 2012 were accepted as corrected. The motion was made by Mooney and seconded by Carlson. Four votes were in favor, two members abstained. One correction was made.

Kristen Lamb arrived at 7:20.

Annual Report: Members reviewed the Conservation Commission's Annual Report draft prepared by Demeritt. Edits and additions were made to the report.

Correspondence:

- A notice that the Bear-Paw Annual Meeting to be held on Saturday, January 26 was received. There is a \$10 fee for members. Preregistration can be by phone (463-9400) or email (info@Bear-Paw.org). Mary Holland, a naturalist living in Vermont will be the featured speaker.
- The Annual Meeting of Natural Resource Scientists will be held on January 25 at the Holiday Inn in Manchester. Dues for conservation commissions are \$20 per year. Event costs are additional.
- Intent to Cut for Dan and Susan Comte, to cut 10 acres from a 136-acre parcel, Map 2, Lot 1. Start date is 12/2012.
- Dated 12-6-12, from the NH Natural Heritage Bureau a report to Nicholas and Agnes Bonardi of Manchester NH re: his application to Wetlands Bureau, DES, for permission to repair a retaining wall 12 to 15 feet wide, Map 70, Lot 99 stated that "no species listed as sensitive or rare was found... and that this report was valid to 12-5-13".
- Dated 12-31-12, a second notice of incomplete application (see minutes of 12-10-12) from Dale R. Kierstead, DES Wetland Bureau to Nicholas and Agnes Bonardi (see above) a "Notice of Incomplete Permit by Notification Form" that more detailed plans were required in the application. Please resubmit within 20 days.

Bear-Paw Report: Demeritt reviewed the 2013 calendar of events for the remainder of the year. There were no additions or changes noted.

Lamprey River Watershed Association (LRWA): There was nothing to report at this time.

"Salt and Sand Letter": Lamb distributed copies of a draft letter re: salt and sand concerns and training recommendations from the Commission to the Board of Selectmen (BOS). Members reviewed the draft and made recommendations. It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Abrams to send such letter with corrections to the BOS. All seven votes were in favor. Demeritt will ask to be put on the BOS agenda for February 11 if that is convenient.

Mulligan Forest Winter Tracking Walk: The Commission will host a snowshoe/boots walk on Saturday, February 9 at the trailhead of the Mulligan Forest easement. The main theme of the event will be to learn to identify animal sign led by Lamb. The walk will be approximately two hours long from 10 am to 12 pm. Preregistration will be required so in the event of inclement weather participants can be notified of a postponement to Sunday. Lamb and Abrams will be responsible for making arrangements with Jim Fernald, co-owner of the property, the advertising and conducting a pre-walk to determine details of the event.

Planning Board News: Mooney told the Commission that the agent for the Oak-Ridge subdivision application will be on the Planning Board agenda on January 23. The applicant has asked for an additional extension due to the slow progress of the NRCS to process wetland easement applications for 2013. The Commission is anxious that a great portion, if not all, of this property be protected for its high habitat value and connectivity to other abutting open space properties. Members of the Commission were asked to attend the meeting to show support for this extension request and Demeritt will write a letter for the record as well.

Other: Abrams related that she has volunteered to be a member of the Blaisdell Memorial Library Landscaping Committee. A concern of the Committee is how to deal with the invasives, notably bittersweet and honeysuckle. An Integrated Landscape Model is being used. An additional concern is the poison ivy.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mooney and seconded by Abrams. All votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary

These minutes were accepted as corrected at the meeting held on February 11, 2013. Corrections have been made.