WOLFEBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION January 17, 2011 MINUTES

<u>Members Present:</u> Dan Coons, Chairman, Mike Hodder, Vice-Chairman, Ed Roundy, Gail Antonucci, Lenore Clark, Members, Sarah Silk, Alternate.

Members Absent: Dave Wheeler, Randy Tetreault, Members.

Staff Present: Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Chairman Coons opened the meeting at 7:10 PM.

Chairman Coons appointed Sarah Silk, Alternate, to sit in for Randy Tetreault, Member.

Discussion Items

Project Planning for properties managed by the Commission

Ed Roundy stated he feels that planning projects should involve public input to be most effective.

Dan Coons concurred however, thought the Commission needed to start somewhere; noting such is the purpose of this meeting.

Ed Roundy recommended (with concurrence from the Commission) that once the NRI Conservation Properties map is completed that such be framed and posted at the Library, if possible.

Dan Coons stated there is an updated map available from the Granit website.

Bill Rae Conservation Area

Mike Hodder recommended a walkway and observation platform.

Ed Roundy suggested that he did not want to see any improvements out into the marsh, that it would negatively impact wildlife.

Dan Coons suggested it could be placed at the edge of the trees. He recommended trail improvements as well.

Ed Roundy suggested a bike stand/rack and parking improvements.

The Commission agreed that improving the 2nd entrance at Northline Road was not desired at this time and efforts should be concentrated on improving the lake end of the property at the present.

Mike Hodder mentioned the installation of NHDOT and Town DPW Share the Road signs; noting collaboration with the bike path group to connect this property to Town.

Ellie's Woodland Walk

Mike recommended the following changes / improvements at Ellie's Woodland Walk;

Raising boardwalks

Extending the length of the boardwalk along the berm

Place a 2nd railing on the bridge

Signage along the trail

Parking improved near the bridge

Meadow lane graveled and leveled

Connector "groomed" (fill added)

Remove small pile of fill at 1st Meadow Lane

Current parking lot graded

Trail out to TRAC improved/groomed

Install bike stand/rack

The Commission discussed the current state of the trail out to TRAC (rail trail); noting such is on private land and the property owner should be included in the discussions regarding improvements to the trail.

Mike Hodder suggested getting NHDOT to install Share the Road signs.

Front Bay Conservation Area

The Commission discussed the following work items for the Front Bay Conservation Area;

Clearing of lot – removal of invasive species

Widen and grade parking area

Widen and grade path

Install bike stand/rack

Mike Hodder suggested Extend trail to property line.

Ed Roundy thought it would be a good idea to make the trail a loop, bringing it back along the stone wall.

Willey Brook / Fernald Station / Prescott

Dan Coons indicated he had spent considerable time in the past few days snowshoeing on approximately ½ of the lot; noting there is currently a number of skidder trails that he thought could be easily converted to hiking trails. However, he stated a bridge across Willey Brook would need to be constructed. He stated due to its location close to the trailhead parking at Fernald Station, it would make a nice place for a loop trail that would get people off the rail trail and into the woods; noting such could be accessible for bicyclists and skiers and made part of the local bike network from Town.

Mike Hodder recommended the placement of Share the Road signs along Bay Street, Route 109A, Beach Pond Road, Northline Road and Route 109 (connecting all the properties).

The Commission discussed other properties however; felt that these were the most likely candidates for where our efforts and money would be best spent. The Armory, Trask Mountain and Brown lots are to remain under current usage. Clow Lot may also benefit from parking lot and trail improvements, but others are greater priority due to location of each.

It was moved by Gail Antonucci and seconded by Ed Roundy to adjourn the January 17, 2011 Wolfeboro Conservation Commission meeting. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, **Dan Coons**Dan Coons