

Minutes:

Kingston Conservation Commission

2/7/19

Meeting called to order 6:45 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, John Ricker, Linda Foss

Guests: Walt Roy, Jeff Sluder

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as written. Motion by John, Marghi second.

Treasurer's Report:

John reported that the current balance in the Forest fund is \$6,852.00 and the current balance in the Conservation Commission general fund is \$9,845.64.

Correspondence:

No new correspondence this month.

New Business:

Warrant Article:

The West Kingston Town Forest warrant article will probably not appear on the ballot as a result of the wording change proposed at the deliberative session. If the warrant article does not appear or does not pass, the Commission will continue to improve the trails in the Acorn/Rockrimmon town property. If a timber harvest of that property is recommended by the County Forester, the Commission will request that the Select Board allow some of the harvest proceeds to be retained in the Forest Fund.

Commission Chair Position:

As her term is ending in March, Evy asked for input on candidates for the Chair position if her commission were not to be renewed. It was concluded that no other Commission member has either the experience or available time to adequately fulfill this role. If Evy's commission is not renewed the other members will request a meeting with the Select Board to determine the best course of action for the Commission.

Kingston 325th:

The Commission would like to sponsor a special event for the 2019 Kingston Days. The possibility of organizing a running race at Valley Lane or Frye Town Forest was discussed. Issues to be considered include staffing for race organization and liability insurance.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

*7 Small Pox Road, 5.0 acre trout pond; new plans.

The Commission requests information on the proposed dewatering plan as part of the review process.

The new plans note that Seekamp Environmental Engineering reviewed the project in December. The Commission would like a copy of Seekamp's letter for review.

There is an exemplary community of Atlantic White Cedars in close proximity to the proposed project. The Commission would like to know if NHB has been contacted as they would want to evaluate any possible impact the project may have on the cedar swamp.

*4 Main Street, James Industries

The Commission has no comment on the updated plans.

*Camp Lincoln, overnight use permit

The Commission has no comment.

Signs/Trails/Forests:

Forest Assessment:

Evy met with Greg Jordan, the new county forester, to request an assessment of our Town Forests. Mr. Jordan agreed to do inspection walks at the Town Forests and the Acorn/Rockrimmon conservation property in the coming weeks to assess whether further harvesting is needed and to inspect for invasives and wooly adelgid. He will report his findings to the Commission and the Select Board. He did note that while wooly adelgid is an ongoing threat to hemlocks in our area, the recent cold snap and the extreme cold temperatures of last winter have depleted their population.

Stone Wall Mapping:

The New Hampshire Geological Survey and NHDES are launching a new interactive "New Hampshire Stone Wall Mapper," which will enable the public to use this web-based tool to map the state's landscape of historic stone walls.

Trails subcommittee:

Evy read a report from the Trails Subcommittee reporting that there has been significant progress mapping and maintaining trails on several different conservation properties.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 pm

Next meeting Thursday, March 7, 6:45 pm at the library