

.Minutes:

Kingston Conservation Commission

4/4/19

Meeting called to order 6:45 pm

Present: Evy Nathan, Marghi Bean, Linda Foss, Bob Smith, John Ricker, Rich Wilson (BOS ex officio)

Excused absence: Greg Senko, due to work commitment

Guests: Walt Roy, Jeff Sluder

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as written. Motion by Bob, Marghi second, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

John reported the Conservation Fund current balance is \$9,861.56. He is gathering documentation and plans to meet with Cindy Kenerson for the Conservation Fund audit.

Correspondence:

The New Hampshire Student Conservation Association (SCA NH) sent a letter seeking project proposals for their conservation programs.

SELT sent a letter notifying the Commission that they will be doing monitoring walks on the following properties: North Kingston Town Forest (Back Road), South Kingston Town Forest (Valley Lane), Rockrimmon Town Forest (West Kingston/Acorn), Route 107 Town Forest, Frye Town Forest and Dorre Rd. Evy will coordinate with SELT to ensure that someone from the Commission accompanies the monitor on each of these walks.

New Business:

Saving Special Places: Evy, Marghi, Bob and Linda will attend the Saving Special Places land conservation conference on Saturday, April 6.

Pollinator Pathways Project: Marghi has posted flyers for the "A Garden for Pollinators and Wildlife" program at the Kingston Community Library on April 10, 7 pm. There may also be a honey tasting at this event. NH DOT "Governor's Lilac and Wildflower Commission" has provided a 5 lb. bag of wildflower seeds for the Commission to distribute. Marghi passed around a set of pollinator plant data sheets published by the Xerces Society, that are a valuable resource for matching plants with specific butterflies or bees.

Library Plant Sale: Marghi and Evy will have a Pollinator Pathways informational display at the plant sale. This year the plants will include stickers indicating which pollinators they attract.

NH Wildlife Journal: The Commission voted unanimously to provide the library with a one-year subscription to the NH FG Wildlife Journal magazine at a cost of \$12.

Kingston 325th Events: The Trails Committee, The KCC and FOKOS will lead a birding paddle on the Powwow River on May 11, 10 am from the New Boston Road boat ramp.

Evy is trying to contact a UNH expert to schedule a wildflower hike for the 325th alsos.

Deer Carcass:

NHFG inspected the site and determined that the carcass was put there to bait coyotes. They noted that while it is legal to bait coyotes on private property, the carcass is in the town forest and there is no record of a permit, so it is therefore illegal. They reported that they intend to investigate and prosecute. Chief Briggs offered his assistance.

Planning Board, DES, OEP:

There were no plans to review.

Signs/Trails/Forests:

Town Forest Assessment:

Greg Jordan will walk Valley Lane on Monday, April 8 and Frye on Friday, April 12, to assess the condition of the forest. CC members will join him. We will walk Frye forest next.

Trails Subcommittee:

Bob reported that the trail markers are now up in the Acorn Town Forest and brought a map showing the new trail system. He noted that the Acorn property has some frontage on Ball Road and suggested clearing it to make a parking area which would be more accessible than current parking on the Acorn Drive cul-de-sac.

Trash removal at West Kingston Town Forest is planned for April 16, 8:30 am (rain date April 17). Rich Wilson said he would contact the Town of Newton to ask permission to dispose of the bulky items at their transfer station.

Bob reported seeing a shooting target on an owner's property adjacent to the West Kingston Town Forest. The target is situated so that any shots high of the target would pass over the hiking trail. Bob provided a photo which indicates that the berm behind the target may not be high enough. Evy will follow up with Don Briggs to find out what can be done to ensure the safety of people using the trail.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 pm. Motion by Marghi, John second.

Next meeting Thursday, May 9, 6:45 pm at the library