

**CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 14, 2017**

The June monthly meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:30 P.M. at the Whitaker Home Site Meeting House in North Conway.

Present: Chairman Rob Adair, Vice Chairman Larry Huemmler, Linda Kearney, Dan Lucy, Nat Lucy, Alternate, Pat Ferland, Alternate; Selectmen Representative Dave Weathers, Theresa Gallagher, Recording Secretary

Absent: Carol Lyman, Treasurer; Karla Allen,

Also Attending: Forester Don Johnson

1. **Approval of the Minutes for 5/10/2017:** Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to accept the May 10, 2017 meeting minutes; Dave Weathers noted one correction on page 1, #4, 3rd line down should read “drain it at low flow“; next page 1st paragraph, 3rd line should read “non-operational”, not non-exiting. Above that, first line should state that Dave Weathers signed on behalf of the Conservation Commission. Larry Huemmler made a motion to accept the May 10th meeting minutes as corrected; seconded by Dave Weathers.. Rob Adair called for a vote to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2017 meeting minutes as corrected. Motion passed (7-0).

2. Public Comment: Forester Don Johnson presented an update on the accomplishments done so far, according to the budget. 1) Shedd Woods – a large white pine tree fell and blocked the trail. He removed it. Don and his workers also did the brush saw work on the banking, and replaced five rails that had rotted on the fence. He mentioned that the poison ivy is overgrown. Don googled a way to get rid of it, by mixing one gallon of white vinegar, one cup of salt, and two tablespoons of dish soap to make it stick to the leaves; it has to be applied carefully only to the leaves of the poison ivy. 2) East Conway Common Lands – They removed 7 acres of the TSI. This work will not have to be done again for several years. 3) Marshall Conservation Area – Work will start on the Lucille’s Loop trail and the parking lot next week with excavating the land. The plan is to have the Town bring in the gravel, which will save a lot of money. Then the parking lot can be expanded to a full lot. Paul DegliAngeli is planning to get the gravel in July. Rob Adair pointed out that the trail work is included in the budget for this year. Widening the parking lot to almost double its size can be done with the Land Acquisition Funds. The setbacks are not an issue. Also included in the project is to remove an old ash tree that was blown over and hangs up on an old power line, right over the parking lot. This will be the first priority. Don suggested removing the old power lines sometime in the future. Rob Adair asked for a motion to approve the work described by Don. **Linda Kearney made a motion to have Forester Don Johnson first remove the fallen tree hanging over the parking lot, then to use the Town’s assistance in getting the gravel for the parking lot, and to prep a place for the gravel to be dumped. Discussion continued on details of the work to be done. The parking lot will be 80’ long and 24’ wide, with a budget amount of \$6,400. Both ends of the parking lot will be defined with split rail fences. Motion was seconded by Larry Huemmler. Rob Adair called for a vote to accept the motion. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

Don Johnson said he will put together a work agreement for the Town Manager to sign. Continuing with the accomplishments: 4) Don reported that in Whitaker Woods there may be a White Pine seed drop this Fall and, if there is, he would like to do a small timber sale with the Conway Conservation Commission's approval. 5) Don Johnson will be away for the month of July; if the Town delivers the gravel during that month, he has workers who can be contacted to be present at the delivery site. .

Reports and Other Business:

3. Rob Adair reported that Dan, Karla and he walked the Hurricane Mountain Common Lands on the proposed bike trail and they had no concerns; it wasn't as steep as they thought it would be. It's between Red Tail Trail and Hurricane Mountain Road, and comes out on Red Tail Trail above the landing. **Linda Kearney made a motion to allow NEMBA to create a downhill trail on Hurricane Mountain Common Lands where they have the trail flagged; seconded by Larry Huemmler. Rob Adair called for a vote to approve the motion. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

Whittaker Woods - Nat Lucy asked for permission work on some of the trails. The work will include widening the trail for skiing and for a recreational path. The trail is located by the power line and it comes up into the meadow. The other project is to re-route another trail, which would be a groomed ski trail and it will be more effective for holding the snow on the trails. One trail will be closed off and the re-routed trail will replace it. Volunteers will do the work. Rob Adair asked for a motion to approve Nat Lucy's request. **Dan Lucy made a motion to accept Nat Lucy's proposed work on the trails at Whitaker Woods, widening one trail and re-routing another trail, to be done by volunteers; seconded by Dave Weathers. No further discussion. Rob Adair called for a vote to approve the motion. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

Rob Adair reported that a memorial bench was installed at the top of Shumway Trail located on the Marshall Conservation Area.

4. Selectmen's Report: Dave Weathers reported that the no parking signage by Diana's Bath is working very well. The Town posted additional signs stating that a \$100 fine will be issued for parking in the restricted area. So far people are paying their fines. More signs will be placed where there are gaps. The DOT is involved, and also the Police are patrolling the area. Regarding fines, some violators have filed pleas, and only a couple have been waived.

Dave Weathers reported that the Town signed an agreement with NhSolar Garden, allowing them to install a solar panel farm by the transfer station. They will clear the land with their own equipment and maintain the farm at their own cost. It will benefit the Town by bringing down the cost electricity. .

5. Round Table Discussion: Larry Hiked Black Cap – the kiosk looks great . No meeting in July. The Town received complaints from abutters on the shore line by Conway Lake. The Church is being built on the abutting property and some people think there may be another project going on. Dave commented that the owner plans to clear the land, and he has the right to do that. However, if he changes the land use, anything more than 100,000 square feet, he needs to apply for an Alteration of Terrain Permit. If he's putting in a new field, he does not need a permit, but

it has to be done within a year. If he clear cuts and puts in a commercial entity, he needs a permit. The State will give the permit and enforce the regulations, not the Town.

Next Meeting – The next CCC meeting will be August 9, 2017 at 6:30 at the Whitaker Home Site Meeting House in North Conway.

Adjourn: Linda Kearny made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 P.M.; seconded by Dave Weathers. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Ann Gallagher

Recording Secretary