

CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 9, 2017

The August 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, Selectmen Representative Dave Weathers, Theresa Gallagher, Recording Secretary

Absent: Carol Lyman, Treasurer; Karla Allen, Nat Lucy, Alternate, Pat Ferland, Alternate;

1. **Approval of the Minutes for 6/14/2017: Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to accept the June 14, 2017 meeting minutes; Dave Weathers noted one typing error on the last page. Dave Weathers made a motion to accept the June 14th meeting minutes as corrected; seconded by Linda Kearney. Rob Adair called for a vote to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2017 meeting minutes as corrected. Motion passed (5-0).**

Reports and Other Business:

2. Rob Adair reported that the Nature Conservancy wants to put up some signs at the top of Hurricane Mountain Road, the parking lot, and down by the Pudding Pond Conservation Area, where the sign is old and weathered. Members of the Conservation Committee had no objections. Rob will tell them to go ahead and put up the signs.

Rob Adair announced that there are a lot of activities at the conservation lands. On the Marshall Conservation Area the parking lot has been expanded. It was a combination of the Forest Land Improvement, who stumped the area, and the Department of Public Works had excess fill from a road project and they filled it in. The parking lot looks great. No rail will be put around the large tree. Don Johnson built the next section of Lucille's Trail; Dan Lucy mentioned there are two issues on the grading at the original section, and also on the latest addition to the trail. Rob agreed that there are some areas that could still be built up.

Rob reported that he and Earl and a few other people have been working on the Quarry trail; it's a rougher terrain, but it's looking good. They made it connect to the main skid road. Rob sent two E-mails to the Marshall Trails Committee, but he did not get any response. The plan is to go to the west corner where it's rocky, and connect in with the existing trail, just before the Forest Service boundary. The plan is to join the Lager's Lane track to this side of the Forest Service boundary line. They did some flagging and realize that to do the job right, it will be more than a one year project.

Rob reported that the crew started on the downill trail at Hurricane Mountain Common Lands. It's progressing very nicely. A week and a half ago Rob and his group had the 17th Annual Trail Building weekend; almost 40 people showed up. They worked on the downhill trail and Red Tail Trail, which are in great shape.

Rob reported that he received an e-mail from the Upper Saco Land Trust; they own the easement on Cranmore land; they commented that the trails are in great shape.

Rob went through the Pudding Pond area, and didn't notice any issues. He has not been down to Walkers Pond.

Dave Weathers asked when Don Johnson will do the overlook area, but Rob wasn't sure. He will ask him the next time he sees him.

3. Selectmen's Report: Dave Weathers reported that the Town is invited, as an interested party, to participate in a full complaint that has been lodged by two property owners: Peter and Shawna Conrad, who currently live in Madison on Pea Porridge Pond. The other abutter next to them are Brian and Betsy Fowler. During the second storm in July they had a sediment plume near their property that went out almost 10 acres into the pond. They have photos to show the damage. They filed a formal complaint on July 28th to the NH Wetlands Board, the Resource Management Division. The complaint area is to Rockpiles Mountain Development Association, located in Conway. Michael Medeiros is the upper most property owner in that subdivision. Dave said he, Earl Sires, and Paul Degliangeli took a ride over there, because that drainage crosses Allard Hill Road, which is a Town road. At the uphill end of the subdivision there are about 5 to 7 acres that are clear cut on a D-slope. There is no erosion control on the site. Russ Lanoie spoke with the Association and offered to help them.. The site is in the Town of Conway; the complainants are in the Town of Madison. Paul gave them a Cease and Desist Order about 2 years ago for the driveway portion, which was not in compliance with the Town's ordinances. Dave just wanted the Conservation Commission to be aware of the situation in case people ask questions; the commission does not have to get involved.

Dave gave an update on Diana's Bath. The Forest Service agreed that they should have staff present; one at the gate, one directing parking, and one officer in the road. People stopped parking where the posted signs are, but now the problem is that people are stacking along the road waiting to go into the parking lot. If there's an officer there, he can get them to move along. The Town is being charged \$500 a day for the Police Officers, but it's not in the budget. The Town has to find a way to make up those funds.

The Town received a Dredge and Fill Application through the NRCS, a program providing irrigation for a vegetable farm. It's the Richardson Farm on Tasker Hill Road.

A standard Application was submitted by the North Conway Water Precinct for work to be done on Kearsarge Road to the end of Birch Bend Road. It is for the water lines and sewers.

The Town received a thank you from USVLT for participating in the round table discussion. One of the concerns a lot of people are talking about is the possibility of allowing motorized vehicles in the newly acquired land. Rob Adair said they sent a Memorandum of Agreement, and he forwarded it to the Town.

Larry Garland contacted Rob Adair to update him on what is happening with the Rec Path; Rob is a member of the Committee. The section along the North-South Road is looked at favorably because it's owned by DOT. Larry will come to the September meeting to give the Conway Conservation Commission a full report.

Dave Weathers reported that Ray Lobdell, as a consultant, requested a Wetland Dredge and Fill Permit. Dave said he will work on the survey; he just put in an application for a Scout Camp on

a site that has a pond, which is on poorly drained soil. The dredge and fill application was \$10,000.

4. Round Table: Discussion continued on the Rec Path. The path is well used every day. The cost of building a rail trail was also discussed. Larry Huemmler announced that he has been assigned to the Recreation Planning Committee in the Town of Conway, and they are tasked with what to do the Center Conway Rec Building. The building has a lot of deficiencies.

Next Meeting – The next CCC meeting will be September 13, 2017 at 6:30 at the Whitaker Home Site Meeting House in North Conway.

Adjourn: Dave Weathers made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 P.M.; seconded by Linda Kearney. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Ann Gallagher

Recording Secretary