

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2018

Present: Nancy Martin, Michael Amaral, Stephanie Monette, Phil Stockwell, Doug Allen, Alice Chamberlin

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Approve October Meeting Minutes:
Minutes approved without amendments

Knoxland Equipment Easement – Stoney Ridge Environmental Protection

- Easement was to be presented, but needed to be postponed per request of the Stoney Ridge Environmental. Will send the easement language prior to the next ConCom meeting. Presentation to be at next meeting.

Children's Brook

- Problem with quit claim deed has been resolved. As soon as deed is recorded in Concord, easement will be ready for signature. Selectboard members and the Warrens need to sign final easement to complete the transaction.

Frederick's Parcel – parcel on the land locked side of the Warner River (9.4 acres), links town-owned parcel's sitting on aquifer.

- Can obtain parcel for \$8,000 (includes additional payments for title, deed recording etc.) for conservation.
- Need to have a public hearing to use funds from the Conservation Fund to purchase the property. Need to put ad in newspaper. Should have the public hearing in December.
- Alice Chamberlin has recused herself from discussion of this property.

Chandler Reseration Blow Down Assessment

- Nancy contacted Alex Swanson to ask assistance by Eagle Scouts to help clear trail of woody debris and blow downs. He will present to the scouts at the next meeting.
- Suggestion to reach out to the Chandler Reservation committee for assistance.
- Possible opportunity to reach out to town residents for volunteers to help restore the trail.
- Trail Finder has been updated with the Chandler Reservation trails.

Warner River Local Advisory Committee (LAC)

- Members have been nominated by the Selectboard to represent Warner: Laura Russell, Ken Milender and Chris Spann-Weitz all have expressed interest in participating.
- DES will provide \$8,000 to support the start-up of the LAC
- The Warner River is second in line to be part of a statewide instream flow project to help understand how best to manage river flows during drought periods.

Land Protection

- Nancy will present the 2019 budget to the Selectboard and provide a summary of 2018 expenses.

- 3 projects in the works – 1) Frederick’s parcel (\$8,000); 2) Surplus DOT parcel near the Lang Bridge (surveyor has been paid for complete survey), possible cost of that parcel \$15,000; 3) Surplus DOT 9-acre parcel near Bagley bridge approximately \$10,000

Update on DOT surplus riverfront lots

- Map 7, Lot 1 – Based on the most recent survey (completed this fall) the surveyor found no reason that access to river would be limited and noted that the class VI road was not discontinued.
- Map 16, Lot 24 – No update.

Friends of the Mink Hills on OHRVs – Update

- Note article about OHRV use in the Mink Hills survey results in the November 6, 2018 edition of the Intertown Record.

Wetlands/Forestry Permits – Stephanie Monette

- No new permits.

Old/New Business

- Nancy attended a seminar discussing environmentally sound trails. Nancy will look up contact information for trail design for a presentation to the ConCom.
- Suggested the ConCom develop a map of conservation lands and trails to share at Town Meeting. Doug, Susi and Stephanie will work on the map.
- ConCom received an email from the public noting that the Ordway Woods needs trash pick up. Members of the ConCom will organize to pick up the trash.
- DOT feedback needed on I-89 improvements (paving, guardrail and culvert replacements, drainage improvements) – ConComm received a letter from DOT requesting input on potential mitigation areas if there will be significant impacts to wetlands. Consider fence repairs incorporating moving fence to accommodate rail trail. ConComm may suggest improvements to drainage where poor drainage has affected off-site property.
- Economic Development Committee – Nancy attended last meeting. Upcoming public meeting at the town hall, November 15, will present results on Economic Development survey, and future uses of the old fire station.

Adjourn – 8:30 pm