

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
July 14, 2016  
Meeting Minutes

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Dot Banks, John Earley, Dick Ayers, Brian Mokler, Katy Wells; Alternate and Karen Ober; Selectman's Representative

**Open**

At 7:00m Chair Crosby recognized a presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order.

**Minutes**

Chair Crosby made a ***motion*** to approve the minutes of 06/09/16 with corrections, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Mokler all were in favor.

The commission members reviewed the draft memo to the Planning Board prepared by Katy and Dick, as requested at the last meeting. The memo was amended and Katy will make the changes and forward to the Planning Board, with a copy to the BOS and the ZBA.

**Old Business**

Town owned lots

Chair Crosby reported that he has been by the forest maintenance operation for TML 25/18, New Boston Road and it appears to be still under way. Chair stated he has heard nothing further from Jon Martin but will give him a call.

Earth Day

No update.

Field and Forest Trails

Chair Crosby stated that he will contact John Max to see about getting the pine tree cut up and off the stone wall and also ask for an estimate to do the brush hog on the field on the trails sometime in August.

Dot stated the she and her husband may do some weed whacking on this *is my song trail* off Eastman Hill Road.

**Correspondence**

None

**New Business**

Selectman Ober reported that the BOS have had another inquiry from the resident on Hermit Lake Road, who would now like the town to consider a boundary line adjustment. The commission discussed this issue and reviewed what their decision was last year when it was discussed at a Conservation Commission meeting. It was the consensus of the commission that we stand behind our decision and the commission does not recommend anything further at this time.

Chair Crosby discussed the upcoming Old Home Day event in town. Chair Crosby stated he would like to see the commission have an information table again this year. Chair Crosby is running the cribbage tournament and will be unable to man the table as well as John who will be at the band stand part of that day. Dot, John, Katy, Dick,

and Brian will volunteer to make sure the Conservation Commission table has coverage. John stated he has left over literature from last year and trail information to provide to be placed on the commission table.

Chair Crosby reported that after last meeting, he was told that the commission's Forestry Maintenance non-lapsing fund can be used to purchase land adjacent to town forest land. Questions from commission members were: can we purchase land across the road and which properties would be beneficial to acquire. Chair Crosby suggested possible easements on parcels that abut our town forests. The commission members would like further clarity on what is considered "adjacent" to and "acquire" as in purchase out right or purchase of an easement. The commission further discussed that the value of the land for these purposes should have value for future forestry maintenance and further replenishment of the non-lapsing account.

Warrant Articles- Chair Crosby discussed the possibility of the article to place on the upcoming warrant to deem the Dr. True Road and New Boston Road lots as town forests. The commission discussed and decided that they will table this until they have answers on the definitions stated above so they can move forward with a long term plan.

### **Adjourn**

At 8:15 pm, Chair Crosby made a **motion** to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dot all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy (Wells) North; Alternate member and Secretary