

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

April 14, 2016

### MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Mary Ahlgren, Karen Bordeaux, Alternate, Katy Wells and Karen Ober; Selectmen's Representative.

Dot Banks and John Earley were also present (will be sworn back in by next meeting)

**Open** At 7:08m Chair Crosby recognized a presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order, appointing Katy Wells to member for the purpose of the quorum.

**Minutes** Chair Crosby made a *motion* to approve the minutes of 03/10/16, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary all were in favor.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Town owned lots**

Jon Martin attended tonight to update the commission on the timber harvest on TML 25/18. Jon reported that this is now going to be a summer cut due to the warm winter we had. Jon filed a new intent to cut with the town and the project will take place between May and August 2016. Jon notified the logger of the commission's vote to extend the contract. Jon stated that the DES paperwork does not expire until November 2016 so that is all set. Jon stated that the landing will be on the Franklin side and there was a verbal agreement with the abutter. Chair confirmed that all the pricing that was in the bid was still good as the commission voted to extend the timber management contract until 3/31/17. Jon Martin said that the pricing is still good and the logger has been notified. Jon will contact Chair Crosby when the operation starts.

Chair Crosby and Jon Martin signed the "no cut" for the timber cut that expired March 31, 2106. Katy will bring it to Rob Jutton to file.

##### **Earth Day**

Dot reported that the nature photo contest has 18 entries and on 4/21/17 @7pm at the Library the winners will be announced. Dot stated that there are 2 prizes for each category, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, prizes purchased by the commission. Dot stated the entries are from ages 4-18 years of age. Dot will make sure the commission gets a copy of the winning photos so that the commission can recommend to the BOS that these be incorporated into next year's town report.

Katy stated that roadside cleanup is scheduled for 4/23/16, anyone collecting trash can contact via phone 491-2522 or email at [ktwellz@metrocast.net](mailto:ktwellz@metrocast.net) with the road and length that has been cleaned.

##### **Field and Forest Trails update**

John Earley reports we had an easy winter and the trails are in good shape. John stated that he is still interested in getting information on the property that abuts the town forest. John stated that he is interested in finding out more from the family of the owner and offering naming a trail after someone in their family or maybe the commission can buy an easement etc. John stated that access to the end of the abutting property for trail expansion would be nice as there are cellar holes to incorporate a trail to. Karen Bordeaux suggests having a plan before approaching the land owner or their family of what the commission wants to do.

There was a brief discussion regarding the donated funds for long term trail maintenance and the balance of those funds of the money that we have currently in the non-lapsing funds. Katy will check with the treasurer for the balance of donated funds for the trails in the conservation non lapsing fund and check with Rob for the LUCT process and how much if any we have recently received in the LUCT fund. Karen Ober stated she is familiar with the land owner and may be able to assist with communications for the commission's plan.

John stated the brush hogging still needs to be done on the trails and will try again to get quotes from contractors in writing. Karen Bordeaux requested that any brush hogging be done after 7/15 or 8/1 for protection of ground nesting birds.

##### **Mail and Correspondence**

Items to be filed from DES.

##### **Other**

Chair Crosby stated that the owner of TML 3/68, contacted him regarding the previous request to the ZBA for a variance for the abutting lot TML 3/69, the commission discussed at a meeting and did not recommend. The owner asked to purchase this town owned parcel so he could move forward with his plan. Chair was concerned why this lot may not be on the "for auction" list and questioned if we could recommend it to the BOS for next year's warrant. Katy will research TML 3/69 and bring it back to the commission to see if it can be recommended for sale

##### **Election of officers**

Katy made a **motion** that the Chair and Vice Chair remain intact for another year, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary all were in favor.

**Adjourn** At 8:19 pm, Chair Crosby made a **motion** to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Wells; Alternate member and Secretary