

MINUTES

Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, March 12th, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Town Offices, 573 Sanborn Road, Sanbornton, N.H.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brad Crosby at 7:00 PM

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Dave Perry (seated as voting member), Dick Ayers, Mary Ahlgren

Minutes

Dick Ayers made a motion to approve the draft minutes of 2/13. Mary Ahlgren seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

a. Belknap County Conservation District/Black Brook - Donna Hepp and Lisa Morin from Belknap County Conservation District explained the District's mission and stated that they would to begin stream restoration techniques on Black Brook in Sanbornton. By strategically placing trees in streams, physical habitats for trout are created and sediment flow and erosion are minimized, especially during storms. The same technique has been used at Poor Farm Brook in Gilford and Donna offered to show the Sanbornton Conservation Commission that location. Donna also stated that all landowners at Poor Farm Brook were open to the restoration, but there are some landowners on Black Brook that are not in favor and do not want BCCD on their property. One owner noted that he believe the culverts, catch basins and other water management tools that have been installed in the past have not been maintained. Donna noted the techniques BCCD is proposing will be self-sustaining once in place. Lisa stated that she will provide a map to Chair Brad Crosby of the parcels that have granted permission so far.

Mary Ahlgren asked if these restoration techniques could just be used on the parcels with landowners who are in favor of the project. Donna responded that they can be, but there are some areas that are important. She also noted that she would like to explore a maintenance plan for the existing culverts and catch basins and could start that at any time. Dick Ayers explained that the Town contracted with Underwood Engineering last year for a complex road study and this report may already have some of that information which could be useful. Old Home Day contact info was provided to Donna and Lisa in case they want to set up a booth to educate residents.

Old Business

a. Trout in the Classroom – Chair Crosby stated that all trout have hatched; he still plans to have these released into Weeks Brook when ready.

b. Wildlife Corridor Mapping – Dick stated that he, Dave and Karen searched for wildlife tracks recently to map via GPS and didn't find anything. This continues to be an ongoing project but may need to wait until there is more snow.

c. Roadside Clean-up Day – The Conservation Commission will be at the Meetinghouse Hill Gazebo on April 25th between 8:00 and 10:00 to hand out blue bags for roadside litter pick-up, as discussed at last meeting. Audry Barriault will create a flyer for distribution at town offices, transfer station, etc.

d. Newsletter – Dick stated that he has discussed the next newsletter with Ray Masse and it should be completed in May.

e. Land Acquisitions – Chair Crosby has had a further discussion with Nancy Mitiguy about doing a conservation easement on her property. She will attend the May meeting. Chair Crosby

noted that he has explained to her that a new survey of the property may be needed, and an easement appraisal will be required.

Other Business

a. Squam Lakes Science Center Pass - Mary explained that the application paperwork for the Squam Lakes Science Center pass that the Conservation Commission purchases for the library each year has been completed. Chair Crosby made a motion to expend \$300 from the Conservation Fund to pay for this. Dave Perry seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Special Exception application - Audry Barriault explained that the Special Exception ZBA application for an access road for the Tower Hill solar farm project has been sent to all Planning Board and Conservation Members as required by the Ordinance. Comments and questions are welcome. No Conservation members had questions or comments. Chair Crosby reiterated that the Commission has been in favor of this project since it began.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 9th at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted, Audry Barriault