

MINUTES
Sanbornton Conservation Commission

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, April 14th, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Town Offices, 573 Sanborn Rd, Sanbornton NH

Present: Chair Brad Crosby, Dick Ayers, Dave Perry, Gail Morrison, Ray Masse, Karen Bordeau

Chair Brad Crosby made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/10. Ray Masse seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

a. Earth Day clean-up – Chair Crosby and other members who wish to attend will be at the gazebo in front of Old Town Hall from 8:30 to 11:00 on Saturday 4/23 to hand out roadside trash bags to residents. Gail has done a write-up about the event for three local newspapers.

b. Trail maintenance update – Dave stated that he hasn't walked the trails lately due to bad road conditions. Chair Crosby has spoken with the manager at Steele Hill about connected the Conservation Commission's trails on Eastman Hill with the Steele Hill trails and will put Dave in touch with him.

c. Land acquisitions – No update

d. Newsletter – Ray Masse presented a draft of the Spring 2022 newsletter and asked for input on some sections. He asked if it would be advantageous to do a mailing of the newsletter to all residents since this is specifically about the how-to of conservation easements. Chair Crosby stated that there is \$16,000 in the Conservation Fund which includes education which this would fall under; there is also \$500 in the budget line for Education. Chair Crosby will talk to the post office about bulk mailing permits/costs.

Dave asked if there will be a kiosk at the Mitiguy easement for maps; Ray responded that there was some discussion about using the money Nancy Mittiguy donated to the Conservation Commission for a kiosk or other necessary signage.

e. Conservation plan – Members should review this for the next meeting for inclusion in the Master Plan update. Gail will be serving on the Master Plan Update Committee.

Other Business

a. Forest Maintenance Fund – Chair Crosby will check with NH Assoc. of Conservation Commission about being able to use this fund for items other than town forests; Karen stated that she thinks a public hearing would have to take place before using the funds for other items.

b. Land Use Change Tax funds – There is \$76,000 coming back to the Conservation Commission from properties being taken out of current use.

c. LCIP field visits – The Land Conservation Investment Program is scheduling field visits of conservation properties; Chair Crosby will respond to them about scheduling a visit for early May.

d. Re-blazing boundaries – Chair Crosby stated that it has been 11 years since boundaries on major Conservation properties have been blazed. He would like to hire Town Forester Jon Martin to do this and will check on the cost. Karen added that this would be a good use of the Forest Maintenance Fund.

e. Engraving at school-library trail – Chair Crosby has emailed the engraving company twice and has not gotten a response; Dick Ayers will stop by the shop and check on when the engraving work will take place.

Chair Crosby stated that the boulders being engraved at the trailhead should be moved back so as not to be hit with the snowplow next year; Dick stated that he should be able to move them back with his tractor but will wait until the ground hardens.

f. Black Brook work – Chair Crosby explained that engineers found the erosion issues on Black Brook are being caused by runoff from Huse Rd; Belknap County Conservation District is also working on this and will be developing a plan to fix the runoff.

g. Timber cuts – There are Notices to Cut for Brook Rd, Osgood Rd, and Calef Hill/Burleigh Hill Rd.

h. Town properties – Dave provided lists of town properties including lot number, address, description, etc. and would like to start exploring these; he invited other members to join.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 12th.

Respectfully submitted,

Audry Barriault