



Town of Weare Conservation Commission

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Conservation Commission

Andrew Fulton, Chairman
Stephen Najjar, Vice Chair
Jeff Jackson
William Bolton

CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA – DECEMBER 13, 2017 MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:14 PM by Chairman Fulton

Members present: Andy Fulton, Jeff Jackson, Steve Najjar

Guests: Jeremy Turner (MTL) and Ethan Blair (UNH Cooperative Extension)

Jeremy Turner 4th qtr report

- Wolf Creek survey for bounds completed late summer
- Jeremy asked if we have been invoiced by Meridian Survey, they were supposed to invoice us directly
- Poor Farm Gates got new locks
- Ferrin west end is complete
- Ferrin Jewett Road is in progress
- Jeremy asked if we wanted a gate at the existing road, the committee agreed a gate should be installed however boulders should be used on the West log landing
- Steve asked about a deed for the road since the state handed it back over to the towns, no further discussion
- Jeremy mentioned neighbors complained about a 4:30 am start. The start has been moved to 6 am. The project should be wrapped up in two weeks.
- Jeremy is touring with PLC tomorrow 12/14, meeting at Perkins Pond at 2 pm
- Steve asked how the logger is separating logs from PLC vs Town land; Jeremy explained that there is an established stumpage allocation process. The property was clearly marked and each truck (transport) that leaves the area is logged and has papers identifying ownership.
- Jeremy discussed the process that HTC uses to harvest, one of the best processes
- Question about plowing the road and some damage to Jewett Road in the form of rutting and crushed culverts. Jeremy asked Benji the road agent to go out and look and found no evidence of crushed culverts but did drop a load of crush to address the rutting.
- Steve asked about actual payment dates for the harvest. Jeremy described the process which theoretically will be the month after harvesting completes.
- Steve mentioned that we should update the warrant article to include the \$20K in the current draft which references our current balance of \$160K. New total is now \$180K for the warrant article.
- Jeremy asked if there were any more questions regarding the Ferrin harvest and then quoted some of the loads going out and where they go to. Chip is going to Shilling in Portsmouth. Saw logs are going to Madison in Ossipee. Low grade firewood goes to Boscawen.
- Jeremy mentioned they had to hold off on Wolf Creek because of a need to survey. They will resume and complete in early 2018.
- Steve mentioned that we should update the town website properties. Wolf Creek needs to be added. He also mentioned geo coordinates to each property. Jeff volunteered to have a look at the site and propose an update.
- Steve brought up an idea about using projected revenue from harvest in the current warrant article.
- We need to look up what the committee approved for Meridian.
- Andy asked if we are going to spend the money we allocated this year or we need to include it in next year's warrant article.

- Steve questioned whether or not we should include projected income from timber harvests in this year's warrant article. Andy, Steve and Jeff discussed and decided that the town does it with projected income so we should be able to do it.
- Steve **motioned** to encumber \$5000 for Meridian, Jeff 2nd, Andy called the vote. **All in favor.**
- Andy asked Jeremy if we could get a firm number for Ferrin timber harvest revenue, not deposit, by February. Jeremy is confident a firm number can be obtained by the end of January.
- Steve read warrant articles
 - \$30K for MTL maintenance, management, and reporting activities
 - \$150K for land purchase
 - Steve **motioned** to forward to BOS for consideration, Jeff 2nd, Andy called the vote, **all in favor**
 - Steve to send to BOS and CC Conservation Committee members.
- Steve **motioned** to sign annual MTL FSA agreement, Jeff 2nd, **all in favor.** Andy signed
- Jeremy mentioned that MTL now has an invasive species division and will be submitting FSA's for control on Felch
- Steve asked for an FSA for the Ferrin Road gate
- Steve mentioned the control of invasive' s at Woods property is a concern
- Steve asked that Jeremy add date of approval to FSA's

Ethan - UNH Extension

- Project in Hillsboro County
- Map out location and size of town own landed
- Update "Granit"
- Ethan gave the WCC an overview of the project, why they are collecting the data and what they are doing with it.
- Town-owned land with at least 10 acres forested
- Although the Town Forests are well documented other town-owned parcels are not. Ethan is asking for the CC to help provide additional information.
- Steve discussed the purpose of the town forest designation. "Town Forest" goes into a separate fund that can be used for management of the town forest.
- Steve discussed the designation of the Dustin Brook Headwaters which includes Chipmunk Falls. It may at some point become Town Forest or have another designation.
- Andy indicated that carving out time to work on this project with Ethan would be tough. Now is a captive time to answer questions. Non conservation land questions should be directed to the town administrator. Steve mentioned that he could answer some questions by email.
- Ethan is not interested in non-town-owned land with easements
- Steve sent a spreadsheet of all the properties that the town has interest in
- The committee encouraged Ethan to address questions regarding conservation properties via email.
- Discussion continued around the scope of the project and how best to help Ethan.
- Andy asked Ethan if Granit has LIDAR information, granular topo info.

Trails

- Steve to answer to email, review draft and then schedule a meeting once we have reviewed the draft.

NHDES

- Savoy review (Complete Forestry Notification 2017-03236, 409/61) - No action
- No action on Horace Lake Dam work, wetlands permit issued for Dam Bureau maintenance activities
- 11/15/17 Letter of Complaint noted without action – Whiteman, 571 Concord Stage Road, slash and logging waste in vernal wetland

Other Items

- SPNHF wants us to monitor Collins Ledge, this is old news. John Ciampi used to monitor. Andy noted that Mike Lambert is familiar with the parcel. No monitor has been identified to continue the work John used to do.

Mr. Najjar motioned and Mr. Jackson seconded, all voted in favor, and meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Jackson and Andy Fulton (WCC Members)