

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Boscawen Municipal Complex

Meeting Minutes - Final
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

Commissioners Present: Tom Gilmore, Chair, Jeffrey Abbe, and Lyman Cousens

Also present: Rose Fife, recording secretary

Absent: Norman LaPierre

Guest: Ray Mercier (OLLI)

Regular Business

- Open by Chair at 7:00 pm
- Roll call
- Review and Acceptance of the minutes of prior meeting minutes – Abbe noted that on Line 75 there is a ‘he’ that should read ‘she’. A **motion** to approve the Minutes as amended was made by Abbe, seconded by Gilmore and passed by a unanimous vote.
- Accountant’s Report – The report shows a net income of \$4,925.96 in the Capital Reserve Account, which now has a total of \$141,921.42. He believes that the money came from the current use tax when property owners convert their property back.

Guest:

Matt St. Onge & Ray Mercier (OLLI) - Jeff asked him to come tonight as he showed some interest in coming up with a draft of the new trail brochure. Within a month or two they should have something ready to submit. Abbe is down to about 10 or 15 of the old brochures. Jeff said Brian Adams may show up later. He and his wife use the trails for running, hiking, biking, etc. Gilmore stated that they cannot become part of the CC as they do not live in town. They do have an Associate Member, meaning they can speak, but cannot vote.

Old Business:

- Hardy Easement Update – The easement is now complete. Cousens asked if the Commission paid anything. Gilmore said it was subsidized by a resident. There was no cost to the town.

Discussion regarding a possible easement on the Morrill property. They will be putting a condition that the buildings on the easement were to be agricultural buildings only. i.e. barns, etc. Cousens asked if Five Rivers or someone like that would be involved in it. Gilmore thought possibly getting the Forest Society involved.

- Town Forest Update: The field needs to be back dragged and seeded. Abbe called the prison today and they will call him back to see about getting help from the inmates. Abbe spoke with John Fife about bush hogging. He and John will walk the property once it’s done being back dragged. Abbe said he will get Doug Cygan back to spray the bittersweets. Cousens asked about the seeding. Will it improve wild life habitat? Abbe said yes. Cousens said they could get a grant for that. Abbe said Niebling is interested in working on that too. Possibly a NH Fish and Game grant. Abbe has the applications. Abbe said the seed will cost around \$1,000. Gilmore said they have talked about doing another cut next fall. Abbe thought maybe they should give the Forest a year off. Minimize the trail devastation. Abbe said snowmobiles are using new woods trail that was built.

Ray Mercier walked the Barnard lot about 3 weeks ago. The abutting lot has been logged. The Barnard lot has signs of deer. Gilmore said they have 2 more cuts they can do before they get to the Barnard lot.

Abbe wants to repost the “Habitat Restoration Area” signs. He will place it on the kiosk. Abbe talked to Charlie Jaworski who has some old hay that he will donate. Cousens said that the Homestead Inn occupants may be interested in helping. Abbe said he will stop in and ask about that. Gilmore complimented Abbe on the work he has been doing on the Town Forest.

Ray Mercier will hold an OLLI tour this summer. Jeff Abbe will attend and represent the Conservation Commission.

Abbe has been receiving a lot of letters from Matt St.Onge and he is forwarding them on to Alan Hardy. Gilmore and Abbe discussed target shooting in the Forest and hunting in the Town Forest. Grant money requires it to be open for hunting.

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm was made by Cousens, seconded by Abbe and passed by a unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: April 17, 2018 at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted
Rose Fife, Recording Secretary