

Town of Boscawen

Conservation Commission Natural Resources Working Group

Final Minutes

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 4:00pm

Present: Mark Kaplan, Jeff Abbe (Conservation Commission), Mike Tardiff and Craig Tufts (Central NH Regional Planning Commission).

Commissioner Mark Kaplan gave an update from their previous meeting that they went over maps of special places from other communities and presenting the natural resources inventory. It was followed with a series of questions regarding reading these maps and many people in Boscawen had commented on areas where they had seen wildlife. There was an informal survey completed from a dozen of people in Boscawen of what was most important to them. Preserving wildlife was voted as the biggest factor.

Mike Tardiff spoke about getting out a larger survey and adding a link for a public engagement survey put on the website. One suggestion was to add questions on the survey about the friendly trail system and include snowmobile network of trails. Jeff Abbe was concerned about snowmobile trails with closing on private land. Craig Tufts offered to make the layered land maps of various trails.

Actions:

1. Give the survey to UNCP - **Mark will do**
2. Get Craig any trail data we have - **Jeff or Kellee do you know if we have this?**
3. For Agriculture Land we need to contact the Ag Committee, get on their agenda. We need them to confirm which land is agriculture and how to weigh its importance. CNHPP will provide a large map and a couple of questions. A CC committee member could attend and get their comments and mark-ups. **Jeff I believe you were intending to following up with the AG Committee**
4. Get Charlie Niebling to review the forestry soils map with CNHPC – how should it be incorporated in the co-occurrence rating. Get Craig on the call with Charlie. **Kellee and Tom - we don't know the arrangement with Charlie's time. His input could be important here but we don't want to get directly to him if it isn't appropriate.**
5. Ask Rhoda Hardy and Elaine Clow and/or the Historical Society for input on the Recreation and Cultural Resources Map. Get them to look at map and add to it, just like we are doing with the Ag Committee. **Mark will reach out to Rhoda and Elaine, unless someone has an existing relationship and can reach out to them or introduce what we are doing and Mark or Jeff can follow up?**
6. Figure out how to engage hunters and get their input as to the best hunting land. **We can discuss this at the next CC meeting. Does anyone know if there is a local hunting group?**
7. Talk to CC and Tom re including a buffer of river and streams as a factor. Is 250 ft. buffer appropriate? Are there certain rivers and streams that should be weighted higher than others? Are there any land areas or sub water sheds that are particularly important? Have we had our wetlands evaluated? (Probably not, but do we have any local expertise about buffering wetlands). **We can discuss at next CC meeting unless Kellee or Tom can respond now.**

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8. Determine if there are any existing events of large numbers of town citizens that we could piggy-back onto in order to do some public engagement re the NRI (with CNHPC guidance and participation). **Kellee do you or your team know?**

Next Steps:

- Meeting Oct 9 4-5:30
- CNHPC to do next set of maps
- Working Group will work to-do list
- Decide on how to get public survey out at next working group meeting

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Chandonnet