

Strafford Conservation Commission
Minutes
June 5, 2017

Present: Liz Evans Carolyn Page Dave Perkins Scott A. Young Katrina Amaral Susan Barnes
Randy Jacunski Irving Johnson Bruce Smith
Guests: Mimi Jost

Opening and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 7:10 pm. A motion was made by Scott and seconded by Randy to accept the May 2017 **minutes**. Approved.

Guest Presentations none

DES Applications Liz presented a dock application (permit by notification) from the Freemans. Also two Shoreland Applications for our information, no actions required.

Continuing Business

IRCR Mimi reported 19 bags of garlic mustard pulled and noted that since we've pulled it, other invasives have taken its place; multiflora rose, Oriental bittersweet. She wondered if the garlic mustard was keeping those at bay.

Randy noted that the Meadows Trail got a lot less use than the other loop trails. In answer to the question about the purple loosestrife in that area, Katrina said that loosestrife is now being successfully controlled by the introduced beetles.

Randy suggested we put a logbook at the main trailhead to see who uses the trails and where they were from.

Evans Mountain Scott had a letter from Bear-Paw giving approval of the proposed trail on Evans Mt. Phil Auger told him that he wanted to double check the locations now that it is so wet.

George Lovejoy had volunteered his offspring to help build the trail.

No new information about the road blasting and gates on the Evans Mt. Rd.

There will be an environmental hike on Wednesday, June 7 at 7:30. Bruce suggested that the powerlines could be another habitat to be considered.

Town Forest Scott reported being accosted by an unleashed dog while on the Neil Mooers trail. He also had pictures and maps of where two stone walls had been breached. We do not know who is responsible for the removal of the stones. He did take down a lot of flagging that someone had put up in the area and met a runner who seemed to have done some of it.

Liz mentioned that we should add recreation control to the Management Plan.

It is too wet to do anything with the trail relocation at the base of the Spencer Smith trail. We'll schedule a work session for July – after the black fly season.

Old Business There has been no resolution from the state about the illegal docks.

Signs: Katrina sent a sample of signage for the forest trails. We all liked the graphic and asked that the font be enlarged. A discussion followed about whether the last line should be “no wheeled” or “no motorized, wheeled” vehicles. No decision was made.

Mimi will see if her husband can router the large “Strafford Town Forest” sign. Katrina may be able to supply the wood.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 10 7:00 pm. Town Hall

Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Enz Page