Francestown Conservation Commission Minutes - Monday Mar 4, 2024

Betsy called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Members in attendance: Betsy Hardwick, Robin Haubrich, Elizabeth Hunter Lavallee, Dennis Rodier, Don Crooker, Jeff Briggs, Anna Dingman (alternate), Rich Eby (alternate)

Notice and Announcements:

The UNH Savings Special Places conference sign-up is now ongoing. The Joan Hanchett Nature Series, Nocturnal Wonders is scheduled for Friday, April 5th at 6:30 pm.

Minutes:

The February minutes were approved unanimously without objection.

New Business:

Elizabeth was able to recruit three new members for the watershed study committee. This includes Ted Graham/Harry Woodbury from Pleasant Pond and Joann Santospago from Scoby Pond. Jeff motioned to appointment the new members, and Robin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously without objection.

Elizabeth continues to look for feedback to guide the watershed study committee and it was suggested to acquire more background testing data and build community support via outreach initiatives. It was suggested that the committee should target 2025 to apply for a grant.

Anna indicated that the Bioblitz could be a half day event and she was looking to target the May/June timeframe. She will attend the next Recreation Committee meeting to align on plans and their support for the Bioblitz. Anna will also contact Rosemary Conroy to see if she could act as a "specialist" for the event.

Betsy discussed the possibility of making financial donations to the St. Jean and Woodbury land projects. Jim St. Jean was not in attendance for the Mar 4th meeting. It was decided that the Con Com should pledge \$15K to the St. Jean and \$10K to the Woodbury land projects. Elizabeth motioned to pledge the money and Don seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously without objection.

We reviewed flood maps provided by Jamie Pike for the Hillsborough Contoocook Watershed FEMA Mapping Update. The Con Com did not find any issues that needed to be highlighted.

Old Business:

We are targeting Saturday, April 20th for the annual Earth Day roadside cleanup. The intent is to follow the same format as last year.

The roof of the Crotched Mt. Town Forest kiosk needs repair. Elizabeth motioned and Jeff seconded to allocate Con Com funds for the repair work. Paul St. Cyr will be contacted to provide a quote.

The full moon hike at Tim Coffin's house was amazing with 50 people in attendance. Thanks to Tim and Amy for hosting the hike.

There being no other business, and no objections, Betsy adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm.

/Respectfully submitted by Jim St. Jean, Clerk/