

## Franeestown Conservation Commission Minutes

May 4, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM, in downstairs meeting room at the Town Office building.

Members present: Betsy Hardwick, Pam Avery, Don Crooker, Kelly Marshall, Scot Heath and alternate Jim St.Jean. There were no minutes of last meeting (March 2020) to review. This is the first meeting held since the Governor put restrictions in place due to the corona virus, members sat a safe distance apart and all present wore masks. It was understood that if we had 10 people present we must adjourn.

### **New Business:**

**Trail Finder Program:** We received a request to add one or more of our trails to the “Trail Finder” website program; after some discussion it was agreed not to do so due to various concerns. Betsy will notify them of our decision.

**Crotched Mountain Conservation Land:** A report was received about target shooting on conservation land off East Road. The reporting resident inquired if we had a policy about target shooting on town conservation lands. There is no such policy. The target shooting was actually in the portion of the property that the Selectmen are responsible for managing: they asked the conservation commission to make a recommendation. Hardwick noted that on this particular property the conservation easement prohibits posting against any outdoor pedestrian recreational activity, presumably this would include target shooting. Several members expressed concern about potential unsafe shooting, in this particular case it was confirmed by investigating police officer the target shooting was done in a safe manner. No action is being recommended at this time, but if there are future issues with unsafe shooting or property damage done such as shooting trees, the commission may discuss the issue again in consultation with town counsel and any easement holders.

**Dunscombe Easement;** Stone parcel: send new owner our “new owner letter” w/ copy of easement & map, Hardwick will take care of that.

**Shattuck Pond Town Forest:** a new fire pit was discovered and has obviously been recently used. Pam volunteered to check it out and dismantle it/remove trash if needed.

**Roadside trash pick-up;** was postponed due to COVID-19, it was agreed to make the special blue bags available at town offices, at transfer station and possibly the Post Office - Kelly will ask postmaster for permission. Jamie will be notified so the website can be updated.

### **Old Business;**

**Fisher Hill Town Forest:** Inventory finished, Betsy will set up a meeting time with forester at site, preferably on a Monday evening.

**CM TF boundary marking finished;** invoice submitted for \$1,649.50, a motion was made by Kelly to pay the invoice from our Conservation Fund and seconded by Jim, all present voted in favor. Motion approved.

**Composting Project update:** Kelly and her son picked up all the compost supplies, they are now available for sale, Kelly will handle that and will write something up for the Franeestown News.

**Other Business:** “Dogs on a leash only signs” have been placed at entrances to the Crotched Mt Town Forest, they need to be refreshed soon.

Adjourned at 8:00 PM

Minutes by Hardwick