

Francestown Conservation Commission

Francestown, NH

Approved Minutes

August 7, 2017

Members present: Freese, Heath, Hardwick, Holmes, Haubrich, Crooker

Meeting came to order 7:30PM

New Business-

Ron Klemarczyk- had been scheduled to discuss hemlocks and other forest management activities, but was not able to make it so will be rescheduled for Sept 11th or 18th if he is available, or we will try to schedule him for October.

Trail Google Group- All agreed that the Google group seems to be working well. We discussed putting a possible link to it on the town website and could possibly post guidelines to trail maintenance along with it. Trail Wrights has some guidelines for trail maintenance, also recommendations for paint vs signs for marking trails and other useful tools. Freese suggested we should emphasize trail maintenance vs trail building. Heath said it should state specifics as to what was needed ie: cutting back branches and clearing debris from trails. At the next meeting we will discuss with St Jean the possibility of adding the link to the town website.

New Business-

Property issues: Crotched Mt easement; building removal- Crooker met with Gary Paige about the building removal. Henry Kunhardt wants to go up to look at the situation before a final decision is made regarding the Fr Hwy Dept. helping to demolish the building. Gary understands that ConCom has a concern about liability of the building being used and also that it is an easement violation. Also there is a scout cabin within the easement area which was there before the easement so it was allowed. It was written into the easement, but has become a hazard liability wise, so should be removed at some point.

Dinsmore Brook Area & vehicles/gates/signage- Heath will get signs this week for this area. The washout that had been noted is not on the easement, it is on the right of way so we should communicate with the golf course before we do any repairs. We have the right to repair it, but should offer communication.

So. New Boston Rd Bridge work/Dunsmore easement- Hardwick heard from the surveyor and he has referenced the easement in their plan so they know they need to communicate with us.

Joan Hanchett Nature Series Program update- There is something being planned and we will discuss more about this at the next meeting when Marshall is here.

Wharton Town Forest; schedule walk-We decided to plan a walk for the fall for the board members, possibly a Sunday afternoon, but will wait to see when the family friendly interpretive walk will be scheduled.

Outreach and Educational programs-Marshall had spoken in the past about an idea for an interpretive walk that would use more family friendly trails. This could possibly be done on a Sunday afternoon in September or October around 1 PM. We will let Marshall contact Ben Haubrich about possibly leading a walk.

Workshop with Doug Cygan- We would like to have an Invasive Plant Workshop and Hardwick has some dates to suggest to Doug. If he cannot do any of the dates, we will schedule this for next year.

Trail work; Shattuck Pond- Trail work is completed! Thank you to all involved, Kelly Marshall, George Sanderson, Robin and Ben Haubrich and Betsy Hardwick.

Minutes- Freese moved to accept minutes as written for July 10, 2017 and July 16, 2017. Heath 2nd. All approved.

Notices and Announcements- Lea Hart from the Forest Society is coming August 18th for easement monitoring of the CM old ski area land easement. Brad Howell will join her.

We will ask Paul St Cyr about building a new Kiosk for the Farrington Rd parking area.

Freese motioned to adjourn. Haubrich 2nd. Meeting adjourned 8:35PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Holmes-Clerk