

Fracestown Conservation Commission

Fracestown, NH

Approved Minutes

January 8, 2018

Members present: Shuffleton, Heath, Holmes, Hardwick, StJean, Freese, Haubrich, Crooker, Marshall

Others in attendance: Chad Mills, Chris Guida

Meeting came to order 7:05PM

Minutes-

Heath made motion to accept minutes of 12-4-2017 as amended. Freese 2nd. All in favor. Minutes approved.

New Business-

Winter Hikes; Full Moon and/or Winter Tracking Hike- The full moon timing and moon rise may not work out for a February hike so we may try to do at the end of March and will discuss more at our next meeting. We will try to do a winter tracking hike led by Ben Haubrich on a Sunday in February based on Ben's schedule. Heath offered to host a post hike gathering.

Future Programs- Carol Brock is interested in doing a program on the Emerald Ash Borer. If we did this program in co-operation with Carol it might be good to hold this as a JHNS program. Marshall suggested we combine it with the Woolly Adelgid and call the program "Invasive Pests". Maybe we could go out with Ron Klemarczyk into one of our forests for a tour to see how to identify these pests. The UNH Dept. of Agriculture/ UNH has published an informative flyer on the topic and StJean suggested we might have it published in the paper with their permission.

Chad Mills, Russell Station Road, Proposed Pond Application- Chris Guida a certified wetlands scientist presented Chad Mills plan for a proposed agricultural pond which will double as a wildlife habitat pond. The closest point of the proposed pond from a stream on the property is 70 ft. The total area of the pond is 31,000 sq. ft. (.7 acres) of which 19,000 sq ft is an impact area within the wetland. The rest is in an adjacent upland area. This will fall under the minimum impact category under DES. The pond needs to be over 6 ½ feet in depth and is proposed to be 10-12 feet in depth. There is a possibility of creating islands in the pond for wildlife habitat. Don Crooker, vice chair, took over as chair for the board to continue the discussion as Hardwick

recused due to the fact her brother has worked on the property in the past and will likely work on the property in the future for Chad Mills. Chris Guida continued with the presentation and explained that they chose to place the pond in an area where there would be ground water to feed it. Freese asked where would the material removed from the project be placed? Guida said it would be stockpiled in the upland area and would not be put back into the wetland. Haubrich asked for clarification of the 'temporary dewatering basin'. Guida explained this was an area where the water will go in and silt will settle out, then the water will be filtered before it goes back into the wetland. This will only be used during construction. They intend to do this project during the dry season to minimize the water that will have to be displaced. Marshall asked who will assure that the proper buffers are maintained and Guida responded that was his responsibility; he would oversee the buffers and also erosion control. The DES has criteria that they have to be notified 2 weeks before the project begins and then when the project is finished so they can come look at it. Crooker noted that the board needs to defer to Chris Guida for the expedited review. Crooker said we need to ask if ZBA needs to weigh into this. Hardwick will ask the ZBA their opinion of this, whether they need to review this plan before we agree to sign it. There was discussion that the date on the plan was incorrect and would need to be corrected. Marshall made a motion to authorize ConCom to sign the application with the provision of correction of the date on the plan and provided it does not need special exception of the ZBA. Freese 2nd. All in favor-Shuffleton, Heath, Holmes, Marshall, StJean, Freese, Haubrich.

Hardwick resumed as Chair.

New Business-

Conservation Files- The files need to be gone through. We need to put aside what we feel we might be able to discard and then have the records committee look at it, verify whether it can be discarded and sign off on it. Also there are many papers that need to be filed. The board decided to devote time at a meeting to work on this, maybe the February meeting.

Roll call vote was made to go into non-public session. Board went into non-public session at 8:25PM.

8:50 PM. Board came out of non-public session.

Holmes motion to adjourn meeting. Haubrich 2nd.

Meeting adjourned 8:54PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Holmes, Clerk