

TOWN OF HOLDERNESS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes January 15, 2019

Members Present: Larry Spencer, Chairman, Anne Packard, Jenny Evans

Members Not Present: Ben Amsden, Jacquelyn Jewell, Shelagh Connelly, Ex-Officio

Staff Present: Linda Levy, Landuse Assistant

Call to Order: Larry Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:00.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission approved the minutes of the December 11, 2018 meeting.

MAIL CHECK:

1. DES Wetland Utility Maintenance Notification – to be filed
2. NH Timber Owners Association – dues payment
 - a. Motion “To approve dues payment.”
Motion: J. Evans
Second: A. Packard
Discussion: None
Motion Passes: 3-yes 0-no 0-abstention 3-absent

OLD ITEMS:

1. Monitoring reports –What ones are still left
 - a. None have been received from Ben
2. Status of the RFPs for Howe Forest and the Pilote Forest
 - a. FB Environmental was contacted to send contracts for the proposals with start date of 1 January 2019.
 - b. Town Counsel indicated that the funds from the Forest Management Fund need a town warrant
 - c. Michael will work on a warrant article for the March Town Meeting.
 - d. Funds for the Pilote Forest are directly usable and we are working on getting a signed contract for that project. Hopefully, researcher from FB Environmental will attend our February meeting to explain their work time line.
 - e. Town Forest Conservation Easement needs funds as well – Larry will talk with Michael
3. Responses of the Planning Board to our suggestions for the Natural Resources chapter?
 - a. I’ve sent copies of our comments and suggestions to the subcommittee. They will be examining those at a subsequent meeting. I have not heard back from them as of now.
4. Michael submitted our budget to the Budget Committee (same figures as for this past year)
5. We received bill from FORECO for the trail work on the Pilote Forest property. Surplus can be paid from our existing budget.

NEW ITEMS:

1. Jenny has contacted the Squam Lakes Association about doing trail maintenance on the two properties (Howe Town Forest and Pilote Forest). They will be examining the trail system to determine whether they can cut up the trees blocking the trail at the present time.

- a. Ryan (FORECO contractor) charges \$45/hour
 - b. SLA will not charge us, Americorps volunteers will do the work – we will ask them to do the work
2. New proposed wetlands regulations. Our comments are due on the 18th of January. Meeting is being held with conservation commissions on the 10th of January. I will send you before our meeting the outcomes of that meeting, so that we can make some comment to the group enacting the regulations.
 - a. Larry will send Mary Ann Tilton an email agreeing with the recommendations on page 2 of this document.
3. Spring meeting times and jobs that need to be done in the spring and summer (trail maintenance, mowing of the field, etc.)
4. I have contacted the Pilote family telling them of trail improvements, etc., but still have not heard back from them.
5. I am in correspondence with the Howe family about the sign on the Howe Town Forest. Will re do that sign towards the end of the summer of 2019 based on their comments.
6. We have received the membership bill from the NH Association of Natural Resource Scientists for 2019. We need to okay payment of that bill.
 - a. Motion: "To approve membership payment."
Motion: J. Evans
Second: A. Packard
Discussion: None
Motion Passes: 3-yes 0-no 0-abstention 3-absent

Up Coming Meetings

1. NH Association of Natural Resource Scientists—25 January 2019, Grapone Conference Center, Concord.
2. April 06, 2019—Saving Special Places, Prospect Mountain High School, Alton
3. Water Conference in Plymouth at the end of March

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Levy
Land Use Assistant