

TOWN OF HOLDERNESS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Minutes

Members Present: Larry Spencer, Chairman; Anne Packard, Jacquelyn Jewell, Shelagh Connelly

Members Not Present: Ben Amsden, Brian Gagnon

Staff Present: Linda Levy, Land Use Assistant

Call to Order: Larry Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:10.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission approved the minutes of the February 12, 2019 meeting.

MAIL CHECK:

1. NH Timber Owners Assoc – Spring landowner classes, May 3 is the spring meeting
2. NH Timber Harvesting Council – Spring program registration
3. NH Timber Owners Assoc – 2019 Annual Fund request for donations – we have a no donation policy
4. NHDES – Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau Newsletter
5. Student Conservation Association NH Corps – Information flyer

OLD ITEMS:

1. Monitoring reports –What ones are still left?
 - a. Anne has done hers and will send it to Linda.
 - b. Ben probably won't do his until the snow is gone.
2. Wetland Regulations update
 - a. RMAC has a meeting next week, they will talk about beaches on rivers, Larry will report back.
3. Spring tasks on properties
 - a. Larry will send the MOU to the SLA and Americorps.
 - b. There is a new parking lot on the Smith Rd. property. Larry will talk with Kevin about putting fill down.
4. Northern Pass
 - a. Towns are working on their opposition to the project.
5. Friends of Pemigewasset—Livermore Falls
 - a. The meeting on 2/13/19 was cancelled.
 - b. They met last week where an archeologist shared artifacts that were found; will do Native American artifacts on the next dig.
 - c. The Friends are in the design phase of putting 15-17 parking spaces on the Plymouth side as well as a trail system.
 - d. They plan to have greeters in June.
6. Status of MOU (see above)
7. Preparations for open house on the 16th of March
 - a. Larry has a flyer and trail maps that will be given out at Town Meeting on 3/14, where he will announce the Open House.

- b. Larry suggested that Americorps go out on the trails before the 16th to pack them down, Anne will contact them.
- c. It was suggested that Fire Chief Mardin might be able to go out with their 4-wheeler to pack the trails down as well, Linda will contact her.

NEW ITEMS:

- 1. Should we take a position on House Bill HB 442—This bill will protect coyote pups by outlawing hunting during the time the mother is raising them. The NHACC has taken a position supporting the bill. Here's a link to the legislation: <https://legiscan.com/NH/text/HB442/id/1838179>
 - a. Discussion included needing more information about the logic behind the bill to be able to make a decision as well as learning more about how Fish & Game feel about the bill. Shelagh shared that her understanding was that Fish & Game would prefer that this issue be regulated, not signed into law. Larry will find out more and send the Commissioners more information.
- 2. Monitoring reports for 2019
 - a. Shelagh volunteered to work with Brian to monitor the Chabot property and the property that Jenny had monitored.
 - b. Larry will do Crawford and Pemi.
- 3. Other items as needed
 - a. Larry and Chris Buckley plan to talk with all of the abutters to the property behind the PSU Ice Arena/Welcome Center.
 - i. PSU is considering building a berm to prevent flooding from the south.
 - ii. There is a potential that there will be a trail that goes under Rt. 93.
 - iii. Larry will send background information to the Commissioners.
 - b. Shelagh shared that the Select Board is trying to figure out how Huckins Hill Rd. became discontinued. The Select Board wants to know if it can be an expanded trail system if it is, in fact, discontinued. There does not seem to be anything in writing about how that road became discontinued. Currently, pedestrians are welcome, motorized vehicles are prohibited.
 - c. On 3/13, Walters' Basin was showing the BBC autumn series that was shot in Holderness this past fall.

Up Coming Meetings

- 1. NH Watershed Conference—PSU, March 15th
- 2. Saving Special Places, Prospect Mountain High School, Alton-- April 06, 2019
- 3. Roger Larochelle will be at the April meeting to discuss conservation easements on town forests. Easements protect the forests.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:10.