

**TOWN OF HOLDERNESS**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
Regular Meeting Minutes December 11, 2018

**Members Present:** Anne Packard, Jenny Evans, Jacquelyn Jewell, Shelagh Connelly, Ex-Officio

**Members Not Present:** Larry Spencer, Chairman, Ben Amsden,

**Staff Present:** Linda Levy, Landuse Assistant

**Call to Order:** Jenny Evans called the meeting to order at 4:00.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Commission approved the minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting.

**MAIL CHECK:**

1. Letter from FEMA inviting the Chair to the December 11 meeting.
2. Requests for donations from NHTOA and the American Tree Farm Association
3. Timber Crier Magazine
4. Supply Line Newsletter – S. Connelly advised to give to M. Capone re: info for Fire House water issue

**OLD ITEMS:**

1. Monitoring reports (Please get these done before the end of November). When you have completed them please pass on to L. Levy, so she can send them to the rest of the members of the commission for their viewing.
  - a. L. Spencer completed the report for the Crawford Easement.
  - b. It was suggested that the Commission see if B. Amsden needed help with his report.
2. Status of the RFPs for Howe Forest and the Pilote Forest
  - a. A. Packard and L. Spencer examined the proposals and decided the FB Environmental's were the best.
  - b. L. Spencer wrote a proposal to the Selectboard about our decision. They agreed to go ahead.
  - c. M. Capone has contacted FB Environmental and they agreed to the caveats L. Spencer noted in the proposal to the Selectboard (mileage changes, starting date change). They will submit a contract to M. Capone.
  - d. Work will begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2019.
  - e. L. Spencer will ask FB Environmental to meet with the Commission in February.
  - f. Emails between FB Environmental and L. Spencer have occurred. FB Environmental will begin work in January and plan to meet with the Commission in either February or March.
3. Responses of the Planning Board to our suggestions for the Natural Resources chapter?
  - a. L. Spencer sent copies of our comments and suggestions to the subcommittee. They will be examining those at a subsequent meeting.
4. M. Capone submitted our budget to the Budget Committee (same figures as for this past year).

**NEW ITEMS:**

1. There will be open spots on the Commission. J. Evans is stepping down. S. Connelly will be coming off the Selectboard, so she will be a regular commission member (no longer Ex-Officio)
2. L. Spencer attended a presentation headed up by Mary Ann McGarry of undergraduate and graduate students who studied various aspects related to Livermore Falls. She hopefully will be meeting with the

Friends group in the near future to bring to the attention of that group some of the student's ideas. The group was primarily focused on "communication" and not science.

- a. The Friends are meeting soon. J. Evans will ask Ken Evans to reach out to M. A. McGarry to find out the date of the meeting.
  - b. J. Evans will contact L. Levy to get M. A. McGarry's email address.
3. New proposed wetlands regulations. There have been and will be a series of meetings to announce these new regulations. Barbara Richter, the executive director of the NHACC, will attend these meetings in order to indicate that the NHACC looks unfavorably to the shortening of proposed times for permitting forms and for the lessening of input from Conservation Commissions on development projects.
  - a. The proposed regulations shorten the time for review. The loggers like this idea. The Commission thought that there would be a meeting in Plymouth to discuss the issue. According to the DES website, the last day to file written comments is Friday, January 18, 2019 (4:00 PM). L. Levy shared that info with the Commission via email.
4. Spring meeting times and jobs that need to be done in the spring and summer (trail maintenance, mowing of the field, etc.)
  - a. It was suggested that the Commission hire someone to remove the 2 trees that have fallen down on the trails in the Pilote Forest. Jenny will get cost estimates from Tom Hahn at FORECO. L. Levy suggested calling Jay Brandin.
  - b. M. Capone was asked to provide input regarding the money to pay for this service. Questions included whether we could use the money from forest management, does the budget have a line item for trail maintenance, do we need prior approval to use that money from the Selectboard? M. Capone will check with the auditors. The Commissioners stressed that we need to be transparent with the use of that money.
  - c. S. Connelly will work with M. Capone on budget issues for next year.
5. I have contacted the Pilote family telling them of trail improvements, etc., but have not heard back from them.
6. The Conservation Commission report for the Town Warrant is due no later than mid-January. The report should include information about trail building.
  - a. L. Levy will email L. Spencer about writing the report.
  - b. S. Connelly asked the Commissioners to take winter pictures for the report. We also need a picture of the sign so visitors will know what to look for.

#### **Up Coming Meetings**

1. No meeting in January
2. Next Conservation Commission meeting is February 12, 2019
3. April—Saving Special Places (date?)

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Levy  
Landuse Assistant