

TOWN OF HOLDERNESS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, 11 February 2020

4:00 P.M.

Minutes

Members Present:

Larry Spencer, Chair; Anne Packard, Brian Gagnon, Ben Amsden, Woodie Laverack, Ex Officio

Members Not Present: Jacquelyn Jewell, Shelagh Connelly

Guests: Grace Callahan (from Lakes Region Conservation Corps), Bill Bolton

Staff Present: Linda Levy, Land Use Boards Assistant

Call to Order: L. Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:01 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Commission approved the minutes of 14 January 2020 as distributed.

MAIL CHECK:

1. Grafton county Conservation District Plant Sale – deadline March 6 for orders
2. Baker River Valley Get Outside Guide
3. Windy Waters Conservatory Newsletter

OLD ITEMS:

1. Bench on Howe Town Forest Property
 - a. The bench has not yet been placed; may wait until the spring to place it or slide it out on a few sleds

NEW ITEMS:

1. Discussion with Bill Bolton of the Pemi River Local Advisory Committee (LAC)
 - a. Discussion centered on
 - i. What the group does (made up of members from 6 towns – origin of Pemi to Franklin Dam – has 13 members; Lisa Donor from Plymouth talks about the Baker River; the group does sampling; development within ¼ mi of each side of the river; DES permitting re: Pemi River; works with Lakes Region Planning Commission; Plymouth well water quality; Tenney Mtn. Highway development along the Baker River; DES rules changes; look at legislation and what municipalities are doing).
 - ii. Questions from CC – is there a report of river samplings? (no, but offered that the river has a low pH); has there been any conversation about Baker River protection? (no, any bills on the protection have failed); is there enough support to be an LAC? (yes, there seems to be plenty of support)
 - iii. The LAC needs to give us an invoice so that the CC can contribute to their budget to do their work
2. Discussion of the meeting at PSU dealing with PFAs

- a. Three people presented (talked about chemicals in PFAs/PFOs; where the chemicals are found in NH; how diseases spread; health studies/community awareness)
3. Meeting at the Holderness Free Library to discuss possible participation in Earth Day
 - a. L. Spencer is going to the meeting
 - b. Ideas for Earth Day – offer guided walk with Education Director from SLA at the Town Forest; trail work on Howe Forest, learn to chain saw class
4. Discussion of the NRIs on Town Forest and Pilote Forest
 - a. L. Spencer shared concerns and highlights of the reports
 - b. Other members shared their comments
5. Spring Schedule
 - a. A. Packard will chair the May and June meetings
 - b. L. Spencer will explain, and provide a 1 page summary, of the request for a survey at the Town meeting
 - c. L. Spencer talked about the 675 yd firing range at the Pemi Fish & Game (that distance has been there for some time) and the 1000 yd range (W. Laverack shared that most is grandfathered and they have limited expansion capabilities); they have taken care of the issue related to lead from the guns
6. Other items as needed

UP-COMING MEETINGS:

1. PSU Water and Watershed Conference—13 March at PSU
2. Saving Special Places Conference, Prospect Mountain High School, Alton—04 April

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 5:11 P.M.

Respectfully, Submitted,

Linda Levy
Land Use Boards Assistant