

Conservation Commission Minutes 06/12/18

TOWN OF HOLDERNESS CONSERVATION COMMISSION Regular Meeting Minutes June 12, 2018

Members Present: Larry Spencer, Anne Packard, Ben Amsden, Jenny Evans and Shelagh Connolly

Members not present: Jacquelyn Jewell

Staff Present: Michael Capone, Town Administrator

CALL TO ORDER:

L. Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:02PM. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: The Committee approved the minutes of the May 8, 2018 meeting with one grammatical correction.

MAIL CHECK: Larry reviewed the following items in the mail folder:

1. NHTOA training schedule
2. Plan of Land for Tax Map 204 Lot 003
3. Routine Roadway Maintenance Wetlands application for Algonquin Road culvert replacement
4. Shoreland application Tax Map 102 Lot 053

OLD ITEMS: 1. **Status of Northern Pass** – The SEC voted 7-0 on 5/24 not to rehear the application. Eversource has the option to appeal to the Court.

2. **Status of trail work in Pilote Forest** – Larry will check with Tom to see what the status of the project is.

3. **Monitoring reports** – Larry commented that folks should be out working on their assigned properties.

4. **Wetlands Regulations**- No feedback from NHDES from earlier comments.

Town wide Cleanup for Earth Day – Jenny reported that 47 bags were collected by approximately one dozen individuals or groups. Larry suggested that Jenny write up a short article for the newspaper.

Ox-bow project- Larry mentioned that only one stakeholder made it to the meeting on June 9th.

Planning Board- Master Plan Natural Resource Chapter- Michael has distributed the draft to all members for their review and comment. Larry mentioned that he had spoken with Bob Snelling, Chair of the Planning Board, and he was looking for comments/feedback from the Commission in September.

Drinking Water Source Protection Conference – Larry attended the conference on May 18th in Concord. He mentioned that the State was accepting applications for grants to protect drinking water supplies. The funding would come from fines received from MBTE violations. Shelagh suggested that the Squam Lakes Conservation Society be contacted about the availability of funds.

ITEMS:

1. **Visitor Desk at Livermore Falls Park** – Larry mentioned he would send out the link to the greeter sign- up sheet.

2. **Work on RFP's for Howe Forest and Pilote Forest** – Larry asked if he might be able to work with Michael in July on developing the RFP for the natural resource inventory for these properties. The Commission was in agreement. There was some discussion with regard to having an educational component to the work, possibly involving PSU.

3. **Meeting with the Howe Family**- Larry mentioned that he met with members of the Howe family on June 10th at the Town Forest property recently named for Sydney Howe. They had some

suggestions for the sign the Commission had erected on the site. They also posed for a family photograph. Larry noted that other family members might be visiting again. He suggested a tour of the Forest.

4. **Summer projects on Conservation properties** – Larry suggested that the Commissioners make plans to blaze the trails and put up sign posts for the trails in July.

5. **Teen First Guides Program** – Jenny mentioned that she had met with Carol Raymond of the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center to discuss possible projects for the Centers “Teen First Guides” Program. The program helps to involve students ages 14-17 in projects related to nature and the environment. The program focus this year was on Global Warming

The Commission members discussed possible projects for the program members including monitoring properties, doing quadrant analysis and working at the Quincy Bog among others.

There was also discussion with regard to coordinating these possible options with the SLA or the SLCS. Jenny will speak with Carol again to see if any of these options are something the Science Center wishes to consider.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Commission discussed changing their meeting time to accommodate the changing schedules of some of the Commissioners. After some discussion, they agreed to meet monthly, beginning in September, on Monday’s starting at 4PM. Michael will set a schedule that does not conflict with Select Board meetings.

Larry mentioned that he had spoken to Road Agent, Kevin Coburn with regard to making a parking pad at the Smith Sargent property. They are going to meet there on Wednesday to discuss how best to accomplish this task.

ADJOURNMENT:

L. Spencer adjourned the meeting at 4:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Capone
Town Administrator