

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 8, 2019

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, David McTigue, Vice Chairman, Karen Miller, Matt Oliveira, Bert Hamill (Selectmen's Liaison), Lori Rautiola, Secretary
ABSENT: Michael Bara

The meeting was called to order at the Town Office on May 8, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Reports:

Bob reported he and David went out to view the culvert on Timbertop Road that was replaced without a permit. He showed some pictures of the water flowing out of the large culvert with a good amount of water on the other side. NHDES was involved because the culvert is located in a prime wetland and no permit was filed by the DPW. Bob added the town has a certified wetland scientist and an engineer working on this case and has submitted an after-the-fact permit to DES. Bert mentioned he met with the Selectmen regarding the SADES training for the DPW employees and they did not seem interested in implementing the program. Bert asked Bob what questions he could bring to the Selectmen to discuss. Bob mentioned he would like to know what the DPW's process is for determining whether or not a wetland permit is required. There was discussion on where the prime wetlands are located in New Ipswich. Bob stated the Commission would gladly work with the DPW if they need assistance in determining if a permit is needed.

Trails: Bob reported he walked part of the Williams Property, adding the Commission needs to do some maintenance to the trails. There was discussion on trail maps. Bert questioned if the Commission had a trail map for residents. Bob stated there was not one available in hard copy, however, they can use the online version. Karen stated she would be one to use a hard copy. Kleta added the cell phone service may not be the greatest when you are out on a trail. Bob mentioned he will make one online so that it is downloadable and able to print one out. Jack mentioned he walked the Williams property a while back and almost got lost. He suggested placing some trail markers out.

Bob stated he would like to spend some time with members this summer and do some maintenance to the Williams Trails and the bridge near Hoar Pond. The Commission will set a date to do some maintenance during the summer months.

There was discussion on monitoring properties. Bob stated the Commission keeps an official record of all monitoring reports; adding some of the properties have not been monitored since 2008 and it is the Commission's responsibility to monitor properties. Bob distributed a document with a list of properties the Commission is responsible for monitoring. Kleta suggested monitoring one of the properties together and maintaining the trails. Members agreed. It was determined the Commission will hold one of their summer meetings at a site and monitor the property. Kleta suggested to set a date soon and notify the public that they are welcome to attend.

Water Resources: Bob read a draft letter intended to go out to residents in the Central Village area. The letter will explain what the Commission is doing and will ask the residents to fill out a survey on their well water. The Commission will then determine which wells will be tested. Bob stated the Commission needs

to let the Health Officer about the ground water study so that if a resident comes back with poor test results, the health officer can direct them through the proper channels. It was determined the results of the well water tests would go to the Health Officer.

The Conservation Fund account was discussed. Bob stated in accordance with RSA 79:A and RSA 36:A the Commission is allowed to use the Conservation Fund to protect the towns natural resources without the consent of the Board of Selectmen or town vote. Bob added the groundwater study is part of protecting the Town's natural resources.

Kleta made a motion to approve an invoice from Fieldstone Land Consultants in the amount of \$650.40 for the land survey on the Stone's Landing property and an invoice from Attorney Hannah in the amount of \$175.00 for the deed research on the property.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola
Secretary