



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

July 14, 2021, 7:00 PM to 10:05 PM

Attendance:

- **Chuck Andersen – present**
- **Barbara DeVore – present**
- **Bob Dillberger – present**
- **Liz Fletcher – present**
- **Bob Larochelle – present**
- **Lundy Lewis – present**
- **Ann Moser – present**

Alternates:

- Matt Robinson-Liu – absent
- Rob Doyle – absent
- Charlie Lanni – absent
- Rosanna Nadeau – absent
- Chris Pratka – absent

Liz moved we accept the June 9, 2021 minutes. Bob D. Seconded. Passed unanimously. Liz moved we accept the June 23, 2021 special meeting minutes. Bob L seconded. Passed unanimously.

Received a check from Dennis Graham for \$1,350 for July-Sept. rent at 135 Old Ashby Rd. Money to be deposited in the Old Ashby Road fund. Budget item: rental income.

Received two replies (from Swift Corwin and Patrick Kenney) to our letter to potential foresters expressing interest. Liz responded to one suggested he attend a future meeting.

Met with Harry Spears, Forestry Committee chair, regarding cooperation between the Forestry Committee and the CC. Harry's concerned that trail work was done by CC Trails Committee members on the Town Forest without involving the Forestry Committee. Harry encountered Trails Committee volunteers on the Town Forest, but it's unknown if they were actually doing trail work there or just passing through. Chuck suggested it doesn't really matter. Rather, in the future if Town Forest is involved in any way, the Trails Committee should notify the Forestry Committee of their plans.

Discussed Rail Trail resurfacing. Bob D. reports approx. 3.3 miles of the trail need attention. After discussion, Bob D. volunteered to write an RFP. We'll contact Amos White and Eric Andersen to get prices.

Discussed the latest news about the Mason Quarry parking permit system. Ann reports the tags are ready at the Police Dept. and Town Clerk. Ann says Chief Maxwell would like guidance for what the penalty should be for violations. After discussion, we agreed to suggest a fine of up to \$500. We also clarified that placards should be associated with households, not vehicles, with no more than 2 placards per household.

Discussed sponsoring installation of a geomorphically compliant culvert on the south end of Townsend Rd. (Just north of Mitchell Hill Rd.). The area is a common crossing point for reptiles and amphibians, including the state-endangered Blandings turtle. Plus, beavers frequently plug the small steel culvert currently used there, requiring recurring attention from the town road crew. ARM funding might be available to help with the project. Full disclosure: the culvert is adjacent to Bob D's property. Chuck volunteered to make some initial enquiries about funding sources.

Discussed helping the Planning Board prepare an informational session for the proposed wetlands buffer ordinance. Ann will make a first draft of some key points we think should be emphasized. Bob D will prepare a version of the map he prepared for the PB so we can print a display for Old Home Day.

Discussed use of emails. Bob D reported on what he learned at a recent NHMA webinar on the topic.

Liz reports flagging is up showing a potential installation site for Anna Faiello's memorial bench, subject to Wally Brown's approval of the location.

Barbara suggests a date in Oct. for dedication ceremony for the Jennifer Beck parcel gift. Barbara will ask Jennifer to pick a date, and will let us know. Liz suggested that Barbara ask Jennifer if she has any preference for the property name.

Bob D reports Chris Leask hasn't had time to do the conservation land signs we're waiting for. Bob will check with Chris to see if he's truly committed to helping us with this work.

Bob D and Liz will meet on the Fifield easement with an LCHIP representative who wants to tour the property. The meeting is planned for 9:30 AM next Thursday.

Chuck raised the question of periodically testing the water at the Quarry. All agreed it might be a good idea. Liz will call ChemServe (Milford) and ask what they suggest.

Action Items

See relevant minutes for more information about these items.

<i>Added</i>	<i>Done</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>Item</i>
Mar 2021		Bob D	Add Jennifer Beck property (G-3) to NRI maps and report.
Jun 2021	Jun 2021	Bob L	Send letterhead DOC/PDF to Bob D.
	Jun 2021	Bob D	Prepare letters to foresters and send 'em.
	Jun 2021	Liz	Send Bob D. contact info for potential foresters
	Jul 2021	Bob D	GPS the rail trail to identify bad sections
	Jul 2021	Barbara	Ask BOS about siting Faiello bench in town center.
	Jul 2021	Bob D	Check with Chris Leask about signs.
		Liz	Update Anna's relatives & friends re. Memorial bench.
Jul 2021		Bob D	Write RFP for Rail Trail resurfacing.
		Chuck	Contact potential funders for culvert project
		Ann	Write first draft of talking points for wetlands buffer info session
		Bob D	Prepare printable wetlands buffer map
		Bob D	Check Chris Leask's level of commitment
		Barbara	Get dedication ceremony date and parcel name preference from Jennifer Beck
		Liz	Ask ChemServe about water testing at the Quarry.