



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

Aug. 11, 2021, 7:00 PM to 9:50 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 July minutes. Barbara seconded. Passed unanimously.

Liz moved we **pay ChemServe, Milford \$30** in payment for testing the Mason Quarry water for E. Coli and Choloform bacteria. Test results show bacteria levels are within state guidelines meaning the water is safe for swimming. Bob D. seconded. Passed unanimously. Money to come from General Fund. Budget item: quarry maintenance.

Met with Patrick Kenney, licensed forester, to discuss preparing forest management plans for several town conservation properties. Patrick lives nearby and is familiar with Mason and some of the relevant properties. He also has substantial experience developing mixed-use management plans. He offered to prepare a tentative proposal for us to discuss at our next meeting, and will email a copy of a recent management plan he prepared.

Re. Rail Trail resurfacing, Bob D. reports both Amos White and Eric Andersen are interested in the job and will be submitting bids.

Reviewed the draft parking ordinance for the Mason Quarry Parking area. Bob D. noted two typos. Also, we observed the ordinance says nothing about limiting permits and quarry access to Mason residents only. Is this intentional or an oversight? Ann will pass our comments on to the Selectmen.

Chuck reported on his discussion with NH Fish and Game (F&G) who he initially contacted to discuss possible funding for a turtle-friendly culvert under Townsend Rd. The F&G representative he spoke with said they'd be interested in partnering with Mason to do field studies related to rare and endangered species. Depending on the study results, additional state funding might be available to support protection projects like the aforementioned culvert. We agreed that Chuck should pass this information on to the Selectmen to keep them in the loop, after which we can arrange an initial meeting with F&G representatives.

Ann presented a draft version of a fact sheet articulating the value of a wetlands buffer. When complete, the fact sheet will be made available to the public. Ann will circulate an electronic copy to collect comments. Ann requests that comments be returned to her by Aug. 17.

Barbara reports the Planning Board has scheduled an information session on the wetlands buffer ordinance for Aug. 25.

Re. party for Jennifer Beck lot gift, we agreed the parcel itself isn't a good party location because of rough terrain and limited parking, and that it would be better to hold the gathering in the Mann House or Town Hall.

Liz reports Anna Faiello's bench has been installed. Ann proposed we host a dedication ceremony on Friday Oct. 15 (which would have been Anna's birthday) or Saturday Oct. 16.

Bob L. gave an update on trails work. The crew has been working on trails on the south part of the Potter Lands. However, Bob reports the trailhead near the cemetery is currently inaccessible because of extensive poison ivy growth in the field between the trailhead and the road. Mowing a swath for trail access seems warranted.

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.
Jul 2021		Bob D	Prepare printable wetlands buffer map
		Barbara	Get dedication ceremony date and parcel name preference from Jennifer Beck
Aug 2021		Bob D.	Ping foresters who haven't responded to our initial email about forest mgmt plans.
		Chuck	Pass on to BOS info from NH F&G conversation.
		Ann	Distribute draft wetland buffer info sheet for comment.
		<i>all</i>	Review draft wetland buffer info sheet and provide comments.
		Bob L.	Ping Eversource about more logs at overlook.
		Lundy	Follow up with Brian Kelly about brush cutting at the overlook.
		Chuck	Draft responses to "Protect Mason Property Owners" web sight nonsense