



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

Sept. 8, 2021, 7:00 PM to 10:30 PM

Attendance:

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

Alternates:

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

Liz moved we accept the August minutes. Bob D. seconded. Passed unanimously.

Received a letter from the NH Dept. of Revenue regarding unpaid timber tax on our recent harvest of B-17-1, but the BOS waived the timber tax for this operation. Bob L. will follow up with Bill Downs.

Barbara reports Jennifer Beck suggests Oct. 17 as a good date for a dedication ceremony for her land gift. Jen asks that the parcel be dedicated "In Memory of Ted & Jen Beck." We suggest "Old Mill Lot" as the parcel name given the old mill site, with the memorial phrase printed separately on the sign. Barbara will ask Jen's opinion. Decided to wait until we have a sign made to hold the ceremony.

Discussed dealing with beaver dam problem on Scripps Ln. It's not clear who (CC or Town) is responsible for fixing the problem, but all agreed some kind of cost sharing would be appropriate given that both the CC and the Town have an interest in keeping the emergency access road accessible. Liz will attend the next BOS meeting to discuss the issue.

Discussed forest management plan proposal from Patrick Kennedy. All agreed his price is reasonable, and the sample plan he sent is well done. Bob D. moved we hire Patrick for this work. Liz seconded. Passed unanimously except for Barbara who recused herself because of personal ties.

Discussed proposals for Rail Trail resurfacing received from Eric Andersen and Amos White. Neither is exactly what we want. Bob D. suggested we get a third option from whomever did the Squannacook R. Rail Trail. Bob D. will follow up.

Discussed plans for Old Home Day. Bob D. will arrange to get 100 2-sided printouts of wetlands buffer fact sheet and map. Set-up is to be complete by 10 AM.

Next Drug Take-Back Day: Saturday Oct. 23 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Oct. 16 seems the best date for a dedication ceremony for Anna Faiello's bench. Liz will continue to follow up with the family.

Re. Maple trees at Greenville Rd. overlook: It's a good time for planting. Bob L will go see if the stakes marking the planting sites have survived log placement by Eversource. Chuck will check on stock availability.

Bob L reports the trail volunteers are still working on Bronson South.

Bob L reported on a Zoom seminar about e-bikes he attended today. Consensus of the attendees was that Class I and II e-bikes are fine for use on rail trails. Bikes are required to have a label identifying their class. After discussion, we agreed no changes are needed to our existing OPDMD policies to accommodate these devices.

Re. Conservation area signs: agreed to install a couple on Sept. 19. Bob D and Bob L will coordinate.

Chuck suggests we add an attachment mechanism to our contact form on the Web site. Chuck will ask Jen to do this for us.

Chuck asks about how we want to address tracked ATVs on the Rail Trail in the winter. Agreed to ask the Winter Wanderers what they think.

Chris reports the planned harvest has begun on the Fifield easement. The planned cut keeps them well away from Black Brook.

Bob D reports the state broke the post of the sign at Nose Meadow. Should we seek remuneration from the state? Chuck says the DOT person who handles signage is reasonable, so we should contact her to see about repairs.

Bob D reminded us that we'd contacted Neil Lambert about removing graffiti at the quarry, but we never followed up. Barbara reports the police were unable to identify the culprit, so we'll need to pay for the work ourselves. Bob D. will contact Neil to get an estimate.

Chuck proposed the idea of asking the Town to designate Coyne Ln. and part of Scripps Ln. as a Class A or B trail which would allow maintenance and regulation. Could be worth further investigation, but decided to table it for now.

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	Aug	Bob D	Prepare printable wetlands buffer map
	Aug	Barbara	Get dedication ceremony date and parcel name preference from Jennifer Beck
Aug 2021	Aug	Bob D.	Ping foresters who haven't responded to our initial email about forest mgmt plans.
	Aug	Chuck	Pass on to BOS info from NH F&G conversation. DONE
	Aug	Ann	Distribute draft wetland buffer info sheet for comment. DONE
	Aug	<i>all</i>	Review draft wetland buffer info sheet and provide comments. DONE
	<i>n/a</i>	Bob L.	Ping Eversource about more logs at overlook.
		Lundy	Follow up with Brian Kelly about brush cutting at the overlook.
	Aug	Chuck	Draft responses to "Protect Mason Property Owners" web sight nonsense. DONE
Sep 2021		Bob L	Ask Bill Downs about timber tax letter re. B-17-1
		Barbara	Check with Jen Beck about proposed parcel name
		Liz	Discuss Scripps Ln. beaver problem with BOS and contact Chris Costatino (Milford CC) for suggestions
		Bob D.	Find out who did the Squannacook R. Rail Trail surface and get bid.
		Liz	Confirm Oct. 16 bench ceremony date with Anna's family.
		Bob L	Check on stakes marking tree sites on Greenville Rd.
		Chuck	Check on maple tree stock availability.
		Bob D &	
		Bob L	Arrange conservation land sign installation
		Chuck	Contact Jen about adding attachment capability to Web contact form
		Chuck	Check with Winter Wanderers about tracked ATV use on Rail Trail
		Chuck	Identify state contact person for Nose Meadow sign damage and repair
		Bob D	Follow up with Neil Lambert about quarry graffiti removal