



# Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

October 12 2022, 7:00 PM to 9:15

## Attendance:

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

## Alternates:

- Charlie Lanni – absent
- Rosanna Nadeau – absent

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**Minutes:** Liz moved we accept the October 112 minutes as amended. Barbara seconded. Passed unanimously.

**Visitors:** Mason resident Michelle Horowitz talked to us about the work of the commission and the possibility of joining us. We agreed that it would be great if Michelle joins us. She has an Environmental Science degree and has worked for NH Audubon. Bob will write a letter to Selectmen asking them to appoint her.

**Bills to pay:** None

**Finance:** \$15,050 Current Use Funds was deposited in the General Fund mistakenly. Liz will **ask Brenda** to transfer it to the Land Protection Fund.

**Letters Received:** Received letter from the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions showing 2023 member dues.

**Action Items Review:** Done.

**CC email:** None

## Other:

Possible land donation: We reached out to a representative of a Mason area family that has expressed interest in donating two parcels for conservation. One abuts existing conservation land and the second includes Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat in NH.

We discussed recent sightings of wildlife in Mason.

We discussed an experiment in crossing Chestnut Tree seeds in hopes of producing new trees that are resistant to blight. The experiment is done by the American Chestnut Foundation VT/NH Chapter and includes strong Chestnut Trees in Mason.

Ann reported the follow-up to CC concerns about the Laurel Road junkyard. The CC was concerned about the possibility of threats to groundwater. The Selectmen wrote to landowner requesting an inspection of the property. They found no evidence of spills or threats to groundwater. The landowner told them he kept the junk vehicles for parts to fix other vehicles with. From initial findings at the site, Select Board is not planning to pursue the issue further. CC will discuss this at November meeting.

We discussed the 2020 book *The 100% Solution for Solving Climate Change* by Solomon Goldstein-Rose.

Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 29 from 10 to 2 at the Police Department. This is a cooperative effort between the Conservation Commission and Police Department to keep drugs out of the water supply and the hands of young people.

We thank Bob Dillberger for the Florence Roberts Trail Report. It was thorough and helpful.

Kudos to the two Bobs (Dillberger and Larochelle) on putting up Conservation Land signs.

Finally, once again we thank the Trails Committee profusely for the great work that they continue to do for Mason trails.