

Eaton Conservation Commission
October 12, 2020

1.Meeting called to order at 7:00pm. Present were Marnie Cobbs, Tom Head, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin, Heather McKendry, Holly Fortin, Judy Fowler and Helon Hoffer. Dennis Sullivan and Cindy Hall attended as guests.

2.ADMINISTRATION *Minutes of the 9/14/20 meeting were unanimously accepted with the following correction: The last sentence should read: "Marnie will consult with Stubby Heath about the path through the south field by the old trail."*

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 6,735.28
Forest Management Fund	54,582.05
Land Acquisition Fund	<u>11,829.64</u>
	\$73,146.97

Dick B. noted that Michael Renn, manager of the Henny Fund (part of which comes to the ECC) reported that the fund has done well this year. The donation box on Foss Mt. Yielded \$77.87 this month and there was \$20 in the donation box at the Store.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

4.FOREST MANAGEMENT The timbering on Unit #3 continues and will be finished soon.

5.SELECTMEN'S REPORT Dick F. reported that comments at the Public Hearing 9/30/20 were mainly very favorable. The plan is now for DOT to remove the striped curbing for the winter. And continue to see how things work over the winter.

6.WETLAND and LAKE ISSUES A.It was decided to table further discussion of signage re: invasive species at Crystal Lake.

B.Invasive species - Marnie contacted Tom O'Brien of the NH Lakes Association re: possibly restricting motor boat access at Crystal. He felt this would not work and will research motor craft restrictions. Cliff Cabral, who dives and removes invasive plants, may be asked to check out the lake in the warmer weather. Cindy Hall, and invasive species specialist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service noted that in Alaska invasive species have been introduced by ice fishing.

C. Helon will check out the Davis Conservation Fund re: funding to revamp the existing boat launch to address the drainage coming off the parking lot and going down the ramp into Crystal Lake. The next deadline is 4/1/21.

7.BLUEBERRY MANAGEMENT A.Horizon Forestry brush cut with north of the old trail, all of Brooks Pasture and above the new trail on 10/9 & 10/20. Marnie spoke with Stubby Heath about the path through the south field and he advised it not be disturbed but the ruts could be filled with stone. Re: sulphur to control little blue stem grass, Marnie corresponded with Nicolas Lindholm who has found it successful in his blueberry fields.

8.OTHER A. Dennis Sullivan chair of the Planning Board, requested input from the ECC re: the Steep Slope Ordinance, adopted at the Town Meeting 3/10/20. The first case involves an application for a driveway on a steep area in Woodland Acres above Long Pond. ECC concerns were, holding to the

regulation of the ordinance: 1. wetness of the flat area at the bottom of the proposed driveway; 2. lack of a professional engineering plan; and 3. concerns about erosion issues with so much steepness.

Dennis offered to share the work he will be doing on a Natural Resource Inventory using basic GRANITView which includes a variety of overlays, a set of maps and a narrative about each category.

B. Management Plan for Foss Mt. - At the next meeting the ECC will discuss when to get together to exchange ideas about use of Town land. Holding a charette to get input from townspeople was also discussed.

C. Henney Fund – The ECC can decide how to use their portion of this fund. In the past it was decided to use it toward scholarships for Eaton children to attend Tin Mountain Conservation Center summer camps.

D. Concerns were expressed re: people going off the Foss Mt. Trail with some new paths being forged due to very high use there this year.

E. Marnie and Holly and Dick F. will attend the Low Bush Blueberry Meeting in Milton.

F. There will be a volunteer brush cutting day on Foss Mt. On 10/24/20 (rain date 10/25.) Participants will meet in the Foss Trail parking lot at 9:00am to cut south of the old trail and up the ridge there.

Next meeting: November 9, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler