

EATON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 13, 2023

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Heather McKendry, Dick Brisbois, Tom Head, Dick Fortin. Also present was Dagmar Von Schwerin.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes of the Jan 9 meeting were accepted as amended.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT** -

Conservation Fund	\$6146.61
Forest Management Fund	\$68,306.24
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,582.14
Foss Mountain Fund	\$9756.95
TOTAL	<hr/> \$99,791.94
Donation box at trailhead	\$20

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report. Voted unanimously.

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** - the Warrant Article to transfer \$20K from the Forest Management Fund to the Conservation Fund will not be necessary. Both the DRA and the Town Auditor agreed it could just be transferred from one account to the other. Cima's request for a driveway permit off the Old Perkins Road onto the Brownfield Road was denied by DOT. They felt there was no indication Cima's deed delineated any right to access his lot from the Brownfield Road. The Commission was informed there will be some LUCT forthcoming.

5. **PLANNING BOARD** – PB working on a Steep slope / RidgeLine question off the Lary Road. The house location had to be adjusted so as not to be seen from Rt. 153 in the proximity of King Pine Ski area. Input will be required from the Conservation Commission. PB is proposing a 100 foot buffer around all wetlands.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** - Chair shared a recent email from Sam Crocker, potential blueberry grower, that gave an update of his ideas for the lease on Foss. It included growing other crops in the fields such as strawberries, melons and grapes. His lease would also require being able to live fulltime on the land. The Commission voted to inform Mr. Crocker his requests and suggestions did not line up with the Commission's goals and would not be able to sign a lease agreement with him.

The Board voted to pursue the Brownfield Market contact and Timothy Gould, of South Conway as pickers for this summer's season. A one year lease will be discussed with both parties.

The application for a NH Fish & Game Habitat grant was signed and submitted for \$2097.00

Marnie read correspondence from John Neely, US Forest Service, regarding a potential burn in the spring of 2023 in conjunction with the US Fish and Wildlife.

The Commission voted to hire Ryan Harvey to repair the Foss trail. Dick will contact him to confirm his availability, final cost estimate and try to establish when he could get the work done. Dagmar and Marnie will begin working on grants as soon as there is a more solid dollar amount. Heather suggested we ramp up fundraising efforts to cover some of the cost via the Web site. Trail closure was discussed for up to two weeks.

7. TOWN LAND MANAGEMENT - Conservation Conversation coming up on Thursday Feb. 23, at 6:30pm at the Town Hall. The discussion will be on wildlife. Dick submitted a NH Natural Heritage Bureau “Landowner’s request” to determine if there are any records of endangered species on Town Lands.

8. FOREST MANAGEMENT - Marnie acquired a number of field maps and survey maps from Dan Stepanauskas. The Thorne Map will be helpful as it contains many bearings and distances on property lines. Marnie will continue to pursue any maps Sewall Co. may have as they wrote up the Management Plan as part of the “Ice Storm 98” grant.

9. OTHER BUSINESS – Marnie gave a summary of the Jan. meeting of the CLCA. Topics included stricter regulations on Conway Lake than the States, Lake Host program, new concerns regarding invisible invasive larvae attaching to boats using the lake.

Marnie will contact John Border regards setting out a new duck box at the Giles Place.

Dick reviewed Conductivity pens and the Commission voted to spend up to \$200 to include the pen and some calibration fluid.

Dagmar is working with Robin setting up Quick Books and how to switch the annual payment for the Foss website from an individual to the ECC.

Dick will talk to Bob Cottrell about doing a stone wall talk in April.

Next meeting:

March 13, 2023 at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin