

## EATON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

May 8, 2023 – Final Amended

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Tom Head, Dick Fortin, Holly Fortin, Robin Nuccio, Heather McKendry, Paul Nuccio and alternate Judy Fowler. Also present were Dagmar von Schwerin and Enna Carbone.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – *Minutes of the April 10 meeting were accepted.*

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT -

Conservation Fund	\$26,146.84
Forest Management Fund	\$11,877.78
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,582.51
Foss Mountain Fund	\$48,307.78

TOTAL	<hr/> \$101,914.32
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Donation box at trailhead	\$0
Website Donation Income	\$0

*Treasurer's report was accepted.*

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** - Selectmen's report was to remind us that if anyone from our board wants to go on a property in an official capacity, we have to get permission from the landowner.

5. **PLANNING BOARD REPORT** – The Board held a public hearing about the John Perrie property off of Lary Road overlooking Purity Lake. The Board had a preliminary meeting with George Diller who owns property on Crystal Lake Road abutting Crystal Lake.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** - The FWS burn at Foss Mountain is scheduled for Tuesday May 9. Marnie walked the fire lines with the burn crew who were pleased with the preparation/clearing work done by volunteers. |

Ryan Harvey, proposed contractors for trail work on Foss, walked the trail and due to severe damage from the recent rain storm, they increased their estimate to \$26,900, excluding materials, bringing the cost to around \$27,500. Work will begin in July at the earliest. As the trail is unsafe in its

current condition, ECC members agreed that signage would be necessary to warn the public. Dick will check with the Town attorney about liability and whether the trail should be closed entirely. ECC voted to allot costs up to \$30,000 for the trail repair. Maintenance of the trail each year will help prevent recurring damage, although this year's storm seemed to be unique in its impact on town roads and trails.

Sulphur will need to be spread.

Marnie will write letters to local camps regarding the use of Foss for large groups, mentioning the state of the trails and the fundraiser.

**7. TOWN LAND MANAGEMENT** - Discussion of fundraising push for Foss trail. The NHACC has experience via its members using Stripe instead of PayPal to accept payments and donations. The ECC agreed that the current PayPal account would be closed and a new Stripe account set up in the town administrator's name and the ECC treasurer's name, using the Town's tax number. Heather and the fundraising group will select a platform to work with Stripe. The group discussed hosting an event (presence at July 4 beach picnic, music at the Church), visibility (signs on Foss Mtn Road, Eaton Ears) and using social media to reach people in and outside of Eaton who use the trail. Perks to be offered could include art prints of Foss, private painting sessions, birding tours, and Foss Mountain road signs. Social media will be key. Photos of the poor condition of the trail can be put to use to illustrate need and elicit interest.

**8. FOREST MANAGEMENT** - no issues

**9. COMMUNITY COHORT** - no issues

**10. OTHER BUSINESS** –

Willis Bean Road was severely damaged in the December and May storms at the Kenard Road end. The bridges are in excellent condition.

Dan Stepanauskas will mark the new boundary at McBrien's with Bruce McBrien.

ECC concurred that Beth Griffin will need to talk to the Select board rather than the ECC about protecting the Grove at the lake as this area is not under ECC jurisdiction.

Dick will contact Camp Waukeela (Abby Sparks is the liaison) to alert them about the need to file a DES dredge and fill permit for work to repair the shore across from the camp - a 75-day permit application. Waukeela could consider reducing the beach size, and focus on a smaller beach front, and harden it against future flooding events. NH DOT may be involved in repairing the eroded road.

Marnie will be meeting a Tin Mountain representative for a bird walk on Friday - this will take place once a month. Anyone can join in.

Next meeting:

June 6, 2023 at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm

Respectfully taken by Dagmar von Schwerin, submitted by Judy Fowler