

## EATON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

July 10, 2023

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

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – *Revised Minutes of the May 8 and Minutes of the June 12 meeting were accepted.*

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT -

Conservation Fund	\$25,987.56
Forest Management Fund	\$48,407.12
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,630.69
Foss Mountain Fund	\$14,570.14

TOTAL	<hr/> \$104,595.51
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Donation box at trailhead      \$87.00

Website Donations - \$350.00 minus \$12.86 fees, net \$337.14

*Treasurer's report was accepted.*

\$102.00 in donations from the July 4 picnic will be applied to the Fundraiser. Cards printed to promote the fundraiser cost \$60 - a \$40.00 donation by Stephanie Mathurin and \$20.00 donation from Marnie covered the cost.

Tin Mountain Camp sent an invoice for \$960 - ECC will send a check out of the Conservation Fund as agreed upon at the April meeting and submit the minutes to the Henney Trust Fund for reimbursement.

Stubby Heath submitted a bill for gravel for the Foss Mountain trail for \$1,200, to be paid out of the Foss Mountain Fund. ECC voted approval.

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** - no issues

5. **PLANNING BOARD** - The PB is working on amending the current Wetland Conservation Overlay Zone with a buffer of 100 feet and will submit proposed language to ECC to review.

**6. FOSS MANAGEMENT** - Ryan will begin work on the trail July 11, working on water bars with Dick Fortin and Tom Rose while Stubby Heath's crew repairs the lower trail to provide access to Dick and Tom's tractors, which will bring up gravel for the trail. Work may extend beyond July 14th due to rain and mud conditions.

Volunteers spent 30 hours on Foss during the past two weekends greeting 168 visitors and handing out Foss cards - \$350.00 was generated so far.

The Fundraising Campaign launches officially on July 11. ECC reviewed drafts of the email announcing the Fundraiser and the thank you letter that will be sent to donors. The email will be sent to 185 contacts gathered from past communications. ECC members can also forward this email to their contacts. Local contacts will spread the news via their networks. Cheese Louise is promoting the Fundraiser on social media and donating \$5.00 from every sale of their sandwich special in July from both the Kancamagus and Setters' Green locations.

Robin will check with Lianne to make sure Stripe and Fundly platforms are collecting the information Lianne will need for reporting. Robin will notify Dick / the Selectmen of donations of \$250 or more as required by NH Law. Dick will ask the Selectmen to vote on a blanket approval of all donations for this fundraiser.

The contract with Ryan Bushnell for blueberry picking may start later this year. As Ryan is just picking, not managing the fields, ECC will need to find an overall Manager or, if continuing to act as the defacto Manager, prioritize fields and management efforts going forward. Also discussed partnering with various groups who could learn from and work for Ryan including Cheese Louise volunteers (using their freezers?), Tin Mountain, Boy Scouts, 4H, the Mennonites, Americorp, and J1 workers. Work by volunteers can be submitted to MOFGA as part of our organic management.

**7. TOWN LAND MANAGEMENT** - Paul is walking the town land boundaries to assess survey needs for easements. An anonymous donor might be willing to fund putting town lands under easement, if we decide to do so. ECC will look into this in the fall. Dennis is adding fire burn info to the NRI.

**8. FOREST MANAGEMENT** - Discussion of \$2,000-\$3,000 estimate for proposed repair in August of Willis Bean Road from Foss Mountain Road to the old White place. The road is managed by ECC and is important for timber and fire management. However, use by the public especially during mud season is causing ongoing and repeated severe damage. ECC was split on whether repairs would be needed or advantageous, particularly in such a wet year. Signage and a potential gate at the entrance were discussed - if legal issues can be resolved and landowners adjacent to the road agree. ECC agreed to make a field trip to see the situation in person, scheduled for Saturday July 15 at 9:00 am.

**9. COMMUNITY COHORT** - no issues

**10. OTHER BUSINESS –**

We have a bird house that needs to be installed, and all our bird and duck houses need to be cleaned this winter. “No Bear Dog” and “No ATV” signs need to be replaced / added this fall.

Paul Nuccio will work with Dick to learn/ take over his brush cutting above the blueberries, as well as trail maintenance.

A thank you note will be delivered to Dick Brisbois prior to August meeting.

Next meeting:

August 14, 2023 at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm

Respectfully submitted by Dagmar von Schwerin, volunteer