

Hebron Conservation Commission
May 24 2017
Minutes - approved

Present: Martha Twombly, Suzanne Smith, Bruce Barnard, George Andrews
Excused: Curtis Mooney, Patrick Moriarity
Guests: Boyd Smith of NLRA, Bill Luti

Martha called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Boyd Smith presented the most recent conceptual plan for Grey Rocks Conservation area and he outlined the work which is planned for 2017. He explained they have applied for 2 permits - Standard Wetlands permit and Shoreland Protection permit. NLRA's plan is to wedge boulders up along the deteriorating wood pilings (where boat slips were) to stabilize the area. This work will be done during low water which means late summer or fall. Areas where there are no pilings, he is calling "the coves" and hopes with plantings to stabilize these areas they can provide more protected spots for people to sit or fish and enjoy the water. Depth of the water off the wall is about 6 feet. He expects this work will also improve habitat.

NLRA plans on building another viewing platform in the sandy area at the end of the Sandy Point Trail. Martha questioned whether this would interfere with turtle habitat. Boyd and Suzanne both stated they have not seen any sign of turtle activity in that area.

Boyd explained the proposed NLRA Water Trail to the Conservation Commission. A brochure has been printed and he shared it with the HCC. Numbered signs for those paddling the water trail will line up with the numbers and descriptions in the brochure. There was discussion of the signs and concerns that people will attempt to get out of their boats at various locations...most places this is not even possible. Boyd said they are thinking the signs will be blue with white letters as shown in the brochure. Discussion of size of these signs.

Bruce made a motion that HCC is in favor of this water trail. George seconded. All concurred.

Martha introduced Bill Luti to the group. He is interested in being part of the Conservation Commission and we do have a vacancy for an alternate.

Permit review: No permits to review.

Town Forest:

Town Forest Survey: Members reviewed the survey which George put together and it will be going out soon via Survey Monkey to people via the town email list. Karen will send out the survey and George will collate the responses.

Trail work: George suggested that we look into utilizing Grafton County Corrections to do trail work. George will contact the county to find out about this.

The Berea campers will be doing volunteer work at the Town Forest on Saturday, May 27. Volunteers will meet at 9:30. Suzanne and Martha will supervise. Tools are being gathered at Phil and Betsy Twombly's home.

Members reviewed a letter which Suzanne prepared to send to the Selectboard related to Town Forest bridge repairs recommended by DOT. Members approved sending the letter to the Selectboard.

Last week, Suzanne and Martha received an email concerning a person who had gotten lost in the town forest. Emergency management did not have a map of the area. Person walked out before rescuers arrived. Karen sent the Emergency Response team the link to map of trails in the forest.

Other business: Susan Morse of Keeping Track will be one of the presenters at Audubon's Red Barn series. She will be the presenter on August 15 and will be leading a morning and afternoon tracking adventure that day in Hebron. Martha invited Conservation Commission members to sign up now. Newfound Audubon is in charge of reservations and space is limited.

Spectacle Pond: DES has raised the fee for e-coli testing. Since Hebron Conservation Commission pays for this testing of Spectacle Pond, there will be an increase paid to the Spectacle Pond Association to cover this. Total annual cost is \$270.

Martha has written a note to the Selectboard concerning the culvert at the end of Cooper Road on Little Bog Farm property. Suzanne reported that beavers have built a new dam on the outlet side of the culvert. Members discussed possible solutions to the flooding across the road. The owner of Little Bog Farm, Cate Barrett has previously stated that she does not want any beaver dams taken down. Suzanne, Martha, Bruce and Bill Luti will do a site visit tomorrow morning at 8:15 am.

Lakes Congress is June 1 and 2 at Mill Falls Landing in Meredith. HCC will reimburse members for this conference. Suzanne will be attending.

Suzanne made a motion to recommend Bill Luti as an alternate member. George seconded. Martha will send an email to Selectboard asking for his appointment.

There being no further business to discuss, Suzanne made a motion to adjourn and George seconded. All concurred and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Smith, Acting Secretary