

Hebron Conservation Commission
Minutes 11-20-19

Martha Twombly, co-chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.
Present Suzanne Smith, Martha Twombly and Bill Luti (alt).
Guest: Don Musiel

Minutes: Approval of October minutes was deferred due to lack of quorum who were present at October's meeting.

Permits: DES Wetlands Permit application File #2019-02435
Onaway Camp Trust. DES is requesting more information.

DES Forestry notification File #2019-03366 John Black on Hunt Rd. Work may be started as all necessary information was presented to the agency.

DNCR letter concerning timber cut on Cheryl Esty's property was reviewed by members. Ms. Esty requested a variance to cut down large trees along Braley Rd. DNCR approved this with conditions. Old pine trees may be cut but not all of the trees.

Members discussed permitting for forestry, wetlands and other state permits and what the town's authority is. This included responsibility of Selectboard, Planning Board, Zoning Board and Conservation Commission. Suzanne stated that new state Wetland Administrative rules delegate more authority to Conservation Commissions. At present, members of the HCC cannot enter private property without approval of owner.

Don Musial is interested in becoming a member of the Conservation Commission. Members voted to write a letter to Selectboard recommending that Don be appointed to the Conservation Commission.

Hebron Town Forest:

Don Musial reported that he has walked the entire Cockermouth Ledge Trail and has cleared a fair amount of dead wood which had fallen over the trail. He also cleared some other fallen/hazard trees. He recommends clearing brush on trails. He also expressed concern that if there is a fire or medical emergency there, is not access to the upper area of the Cockermouth Ledge Trail. Martha explained that there is an old logging road which could be used, with some clearing, from the Spectacle Pond Trail, above the 2nd bridge.

NH Association of Conservation Commission Annual Meeting and Conference

Don and Suzanne both attended the conference and both reported that there was a lot of pertinent information presented. There were 3 workshops on the new state Wetland rules which have been approved and become effective in December which Suzanne attended. She stated that when she receives the powerpoints, we can review them at one of our meetings. Don was really impressed with a workshop on the Economic Benefits of Wildlands and Woodlands and the value of building with wood. The opening panel discussion, "The Nature Economy: Balancing Economic Development and Natural Resources" stressed the importance of Conservation Commissions working more closely with Planning Boards and ZBAs in municipalities. Presentations from the conference should be available on the NHACC website.

Charles Bean Sanctuary: This item was deferred until a future meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, Suzanne made a motion to adjourn. Bill seconded the motion. All concurred. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Smith