

CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2016

The June monthly meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:32 P.M. at the Whitaker Home Site Meeting House in North Conway.

Present: Chairman Rob Adair, Vice Chairman Larry Huemmler, Carol Lyman, Treasurer; Dan Lucy, Linda Kearney, Karla Allen, Nat Lucy, Selectmen Representative Dave Weathers, Theresa Gallagher, Recording Secretary

Absent: Pat Ferland, Alternate

Also Attending: Forester Don Johnson

1. Public Comment: None.
2. **Approval of the Minutes 5/11/2016. Larry Huemmler made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2016 CCC meeting as written; seconded by Dave Weathers. Chairperson Rob Adair asked for any discussion; Linda Kearney asked if her comments about East Conway Road should be included in the minutes; Chairman Rob Adair said it doesn't matter and could remain in the minutes He called for a vote to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).**
3. Forester Don Johnson gave an update on work being done on some of the trails.
 1. Shedd Woods - The vista was brush sawed and the broken fence is fixed. The view toward White Horse was being blocked by trees; Don's crew cut several down and suggests keeping an eye on it.
 2. Hurricane Mountain Road - The big trees that were coming into the landings were cut back. Sink holes are starting to form on the west side where they put stumps when they were building the landing. It's a spot that has to be watched because the sink holes are very large.
 3. Pudding Pond – The hard wood was brush sawed and cut up, and a dead oak tree that had fallen down was cleared away.
 4. Abenaki Site – Some dead trees were cut down, and the area around the kiosk was cleared.
 5. Marshall Conservation Area – A new trail has been cleared on the land.

Two small items left to do are: check all property lines in Whittaker Woods, and repaint the boundary lines on the Hubbard Davis property. The work done so far covers 90% of the budget. Don Johnson reported that he is writing a proposal to do the third cut of the two stage shelter wood in the Common Lands, East Conway lot. They have been proactive as far as forest management, and have grown some timber on the land. Don reviewed the work that they have done on the property over the last several years and the revenue it brought in. The third cut would realize \$8K to \$10K in revenue.

Chairperson Rob Adair asked for a vote to have Don Johnson write the proposal as described above, and start the third cut in July. He asked for any discussion; Dave Weathers wanted to make sure it was mostly White Pine wood, which would bring in some good revenue. Linda Kearney asked if a payment would have to be made at the start; Don explained that he works on a commission and a marketing fee, which would be around 15% to 20% of the total revenue. The net amount realized will go into the general funds to offset the budget. Linda Kearney made the motion to have Don Johnson write the proposal as described above, and start the third cut in the Conway Common Lands, East Conway, in July; Larry Huemmler seconded. Chairman Rob Adair called for a vote to accept the motion. Passed unanimously (8-0). Don Johnson will let the Conservation Commission know when he starts the cutting.

4. Trail Committee Reports:

Whittaker Woods – Nat Lucy reported that an area of 100 yards on the Perimeter Trail was re-routed to dry ground, due to it being near the swamp in a very wet area. He walked the trail today and it looks very good. He reminded everyone that the pond near Kearsarge Road is not part of Whittaker Woods; no one knew who owns that property. Nat walked the trail to behind Burke’s property along the fence line to the corner before it turns at Lynch’s property, and he could not find any markings there.

Chairman Rob Adair announced that the Rec Path Committee submitted their RTP Grant Application on time before the June 3rd deadline.

Marshall Conservation Area:

- The new Shumway single track trail is completed about mile up the hill, and has about .25 mile to go.
- There are a lot of roots sticking out of the ground on the new “Rec Path” trail (Lucille’s Loop) and everyone is welcome to do a little work to get them cleared out.

5. Selectmen’s Report:

Dave Weathers reported that the permit application by the Nature Conservancy regarding trout habitat restoration of 3,000 feet has been submitted. Chairman Rob Adair sent out a survey for input on this permit application and everyone was in favor of it. **Rob asked for a confirmation vote to approve the Nature Conservancy’s permit application for the Trout Habitat Restoration of 3,000 feet. Unanimously all voted in favor (8-0).**

The Board of Selectmen received a notice from White Mountain Survey regarding the abutter next to Evergreens On The Saco, who is planning to put in a single home and private sewer system as an extension of the development on that property (Map 265, Lot 161.326). Conway was notified because of the shoreline protection requirement by the State. DES sent a letter to Steve Morrow in reference to not having an alteration of terrain permit; if an owner clears more than 100,000 square feet of land, the owner is supposed to have an alteration of terrain permit, except if the clearing is for agricultural purposes. The Board of Selectmen have not received any further information on this topic.

Chairman Rob Adair announced that the DOT mitigation lands between Pudding Pond and Redstone has a trail that was originally used for dirt bikes (motorcycles) in the 1980's. It has a very steep pitch in one section. A member of NEMBA proposed a relocation of that section, which is less than .25 mile and would eliminate the steep pitch and erosion it causes. **Chairman Rob Adair asked for a motion to approve relocating the .25 mile steep section of the trail; Karla Allen made a motion to approve relocating the .25 mile steep section of the trail on the DOT litigation lands; seconded by Dave Weathers. Passes unanimously (8-0)**

Chairman Rob Adair asked for suggestions to rename the "rec path" trail on the Marshall Conservation Area, which was just built by Don Johnson. "Rec Loop", "Lucille" (for Shumway's wife), and "Lucille's Loop" were suggested.

Dave Weathers made the motion to name the new rec path on the Marshall Conservation Area "Lucille's Loop" (in remembrance of Shumway's wife); seconded by Larry Huemmler. Chairperson Rob Adair called for a vote to name the new rec trail "Lucille's Loop"; Motion passed unanimously. (8-0)

6. Round Table Discussion:

Nat Lucy asked about the new Lucille's Loop path regarding any issues with the future continuation; there is an area that is very rocky and there are a couple of wet areas that need to be reviewed.

The Conservation Committee's summer picnic will be at Rob Adair's house on August 20, 2016. The picnic will start with trail work on the Marshall Conservation Area. Family members are invited. Plans will be finalized at the August 10th meeting.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be August 10, 2016 at 6:30 at the Whitaker Home Site Meeting House in North Conway.

Adjourn: Dave Weathers made a motion to adjourn at 7:21 P.M.; seconded by Dan Lucy. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Ann Gallagher

Recording Secretary