

CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, April 10, 2019 6:30 P.M. WHITAKER
HOME SITE MEETING HOUSE

Meeting Minutes

Present: Vice Chair Nat Lucy, Pat Ferland, Selectman Representative David Weathers, Larry Huemmler, Peter Minnich, Dan Lucy

Absent: Chair Rob Adair, Linda Kearney

Guest: Don Johnson

Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Nat Lucy

1. **Approval of Minutes** – March 13, 2019

Vice Chair Nat Lucy called for March 13, 2019 Minutes to be approved.

Pat Ferland motioned to accept. Peter Minnich seconded.

Motion passed (5-0). Larry abstained.

2. **Public Comment** - None

3. **Reports & Other Business:**

a. MWV Rec Path – conservation easement for wetlands mitigation - removed from the agenda
Selectman David Weathers commented regarding mitigation on the area of impact and was going to ask the Town of what is already existing. The state has a policy in regard to the area of impact. Not clear on USVLT's plan.

b. NH Electric Co-op – cutting/treatment of powerlines - Representative not present
Don would like to know more about the chemicals involved. Would like to know what Krenite is. Don reported: According to a Penn State report the chemicals are toxic. Amino acids in plants in very dry conditions will be affected. Using the backpack method the mist will go out a far distance, not just where it is directed. It didn't seem to kill the White Pine in Whitaker Woods area. When reading about the chemicals it says that it does kill White Pine. It also said that plants could develop a resistance.

Don asked: What if only going through the Whitaker Woods area once in a while and grind it?

2, 4, 5 t (2, 4, 5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid and dioxin) and 2, 4d (2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid) was once acceptable like round-up, but has a cynical view of using herbicides.

Peter Minnich would like to know who approves the use of roundup, since once widely used.

Dan Lucy stated that if using a mower this can leave something on the ground which will grow. They will need to choose a method leaving low growth.

Vice Chair Nat Lucy will place on the agenda to vote at the next meeting.

c. Forest Land Improvement – Don Johnson

Don Johnson reviewed 2019 budget

Selectman David Weathers informed the CCC not to wait until late November and December to spend budgeted monies. Unspent monies will not carry over into January.

Shedd woods: CCC takes care of the fence and the Town does the ground prep.

All trees that were planted were doing badly due to improper weed-wacking. Tree protection was put in place and now they are doing better.

Whitaker Woods: This winter was hard on the young white pine. Planned release work may not be worth the effort. Don will evaluate and report back.

Trail Development: Trail committee will bring their work proposal for 2019 to our May meeting.

We have budgeted \$6,000- for trail work.

Other business: Friday, May 10th- Wendy Scribner, Carroll County Forester will be offering a presentation at the Whitaker Meeting House with ideas on how to manage a town forest.

Don and Wendy walked through Whitaker Woods on Monday April 8 to make sure she is familiar with the area. Don will be present at this event

d. Selectmen's Report – David Weathers

Dogs in Whitaker Woods: Town Manager Tom Holmes has put together a packet on any comment that has been made in regard to dog issues in WW. This issue will be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen next Tuesday.

One of the ideas to be reviewed includes putting up a poster here (Whitaker Woods entrance) and Kearsarge Road with a responsibility list, rather than posting the property. This would include acceptance of being respectful, understanding what voice control means - to bring the dog(s) back to owner when approaching someone.

A discussion based on when these issues are more prevalent (during winter or summer) included:

- People talk more about this when they're out skiing
- The ski community is questioning if people should be walking on the groomed trails
- A walking trail can help to be away from skiers
- Some places require dogs on leash while skiing
- In regard to summer there could be year-round dog only trails for walking

Other issues include: Dog feces and sticks left behind on the trail; Dog walkers with 4 to 5 dogs at once; confusion about the leash law. This will be discussed Tuesday and will be open to the public.

The CCC will need to put together a proposal for the Board of Selectmen to review. This is on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting at 4pm. The Board will have the final say.

e. Member Roundtable

Peter Minnich would like to know who oversees/maintains the old Conway Rec Path that goes from the old covered bridge and comes out at the KHS.
Can signage be placed at this location?

It was suggested that Peter contact the MWV Trails Association for more information on that trail.

4. Next Meeting – May 8, 2019

5. Adjourned at 7:15PM

Pat Ferland motioned to adjourn; David Weathers seconded the motion
Motion passed unanimously (6-0)