

CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, October 9, 2019 6:30 P.M. WHITAKER
HOME SITE MEETING HOUSE

Meeting Minutes

Present: Chair Rob Adair, Vice Chair Nat Lucy, Linda Kearney, Peter Minnich, Dan Lucy

Absent: Selectman Representative David Weathers, Larry Huemmler, Pat Ferland

Guest: Don Johnson, Forest Land Improvement

Meeting called to order by Chair Rob Adair

Approval of Minutes – August 14, 2019 (CCC did not meet in September)

Chair Rob Adair called for August 14, 2019 Minutes to be approved. The following amendments were suggested:

- Page 2, 1st paragraph – Northrup Grumman... changed to G. Sterling Grumman...
- Page 2, 3rd paragraph – “Lucile’s” should be spelled “Lucille’s”
- Page 2, 3rd paragraph – “...repaved” should be “...repainted”
- Page 2, 3rd, 4th & 5th paragraphs – “...Shedwoods” should be “...Shedd Woods”

Linda Kearney motioned to accept. Peter Minnich seconded. Motion passed (5-0).

2. Public Comment - None

3. Reports & Other Business:

a. Forest Land Improvement – Don Johnson reviewed FLI’s proposed 2020 forestry budget. Don and Rob Adair suggested doubling the trail work budget for Lucille’s Loop to complete the loop next year. Other budget items were kept to a minimum, mostly basic maintenance.

b. 2020 Budget – the proposed 2020 budget was reviewed and discussed. Nat Lucy motioned to submit budget as proposed, Linda Kearney seconded. Pass unanimously.

c. White Mountain Trail Collective – Rob Adair informed the commission of the White Mountain Trail Collective (WMTC), a 501 (c) 3 non-profit working with local land managers to assist in fund raising and management of trail maintenance activities. WMTC funded and managed the 2-year Crawford Path reconstruction project. WMTC recently announced 2 years of work in the Mt. Washington Valley and expects to raise approximately \$300,000 for trail building and construction. Some of these funds will be used to hire a professional trail builder to construct the parallel trail on Cranmore Ridge that the CCC and Cranmore approved, and to fund a full time trail maintenance crew over the next two summers. Rob Adair has attended two WMTC meetings at the Saco Ranger District office. Other WMTC partners are the U.S. Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, Granite Backcountry Alliance, NH State Parks, Upper Saco Valley Land Trust, The Access Fund and local towns.

d. Saco-Swift River Local Management Advisory Committee – Town Manager Tom Holmes sent out a request for interested members of the CCC to participate in this advisory committee. Nat Lucy and Larry Huemmler submitted applications for nomination. Nat and Rob Adair were on the original Saco River LMAC a couple of decades ago.

e. Pine Tree Elementary/Green Mountain Conservation Group – The CCC received a request from Pine Tree El/GMCG for \$500 in funding for student volunteer water monitoring. We do not have funds appropriated in our budget and cannot help out with this project.

f. Selectmen's Report – David Weathers was not present. He reported to Rob that he was appointed chair of a group reviewing the NHDOT's proposed work on the Saco River covered bridge. The NHDOT plans to do stone work to protect abutments from scour. Work may begin in 2020.

g. Member Roundtable

Nat Lucy reported on volunteer work on Whitaker Woods trails. Significant work has been done by Peter Donohoe and Steve Vosburg on Lucy Traverse and Wellinghurst trails. They are proposing to add an additional RR crossing below the Hell's Kitchen trail for winter use. At one time there were 4 winter crossings in Whitaker Woods but the NHDOT required this be reduced to two. The CCC decided to let the MWV Ski Touring Foundation take the lead on this proposed crossing addition. Rob requested that the volunteers keep the CCC informed of trail work plans.

Rob Adair reported NEMBA had done trail maintenance in Marshall Conservation Area, consisting of mowing Lucille's Loop, significant hand work brushing back overgrown areas, and doing finish work on the 2019 segment of Lucille's.

4. Next Meeting – November 13, 2019

5. Adjourned at 7:25PM