

# Conway Conservation Commission

**WEDNESDAY, May 13, 2020 6:30P.M. DIGITAL MEETING**

Present: Chair Rob Adair, Peter Minnich, Larry Huemmler, Pat Ferland, Linda Kearney, David Weathers, Tim

Absent: Vice Chair Nat Lucy, Dan Lucy

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rob Adair at 6:55pm, after moderate technical difficulties. It was explained that in accordance with the emergency measures put in place by the Governor, the commission was meeting digitally.

## **1. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the **April 8th, 2020** commission meeting were approved with no changes. The motion was put forth by Linda Kearney, with Peter Minnich seconding.

## **2. Public Comment**

No public comment was given.

## **3. Reports and Other Business**

Tim and Rob walked and freshened the flagging done on Lucille's Loop. In general, the trail building will be a moderate challenge due to the bony soil. Tim submitted a work order to Tom Holmes for approval. The work consists of around 4000 lineal feet of new trail, which would complete Lucille's Loop.

The next order of business was the strategic plan for White Mountains NEMBA/RideNOCO. One additional paragraph was provided with the plan previously available.

There have been some issues with the popularity of the trails off Hurricane Mt. Road, and so they're actively trying to get people to park at Cranmore and ride on a trail that Cranmore will be making from the base of the area to the trail on Hurricane Mt Road. Currently, however, a lot of people are parked by the water tank. The proposed trail would be less than half a mile. They also plan to make a Kettle Ridge-Cranmore connection. In addition, a trail is proposed on the east side of black cap.

The trail to the east side of Hurricane Mt. Road will face some issues. There are a lot of unanswered questions such as the location of a trailhead, how they will pass through state owned land, and the intended use.

They would also like to expand the Swamp Trail in the DOT mitigation lands, taking an existing trail and running it higher on the hillside to connect with

it. The commission largely was in favor of this particular idea, as it is a popular riding area with well-drained soil.

The last order of business to do with the White Mountains NEMBA was the map. Previously, the group had put forth an in-development map, but now has given us an improved map with rescue directions. This map, however, is already out of date as new trails are being developed. Bike shops likely intend to sell the map.

The commission decided to ask that the Black Cap-Cranmore trail and Swamp trail be flagged for review, and proposed grading for the Black Cap trail be provided. Then, White Mountains NEMBA can submit a revised proposal.

### **Selectmen's Report: David Weathers**

The Burke Quarry requested expansion. The application was an expansion of the existing quarry and included approximately 5000 square feet of wetlands impact. The area had already been cut last winter. It was impossible to delineate the wetlands, as there is no inlet or outlet. If water is encountered in their excavation, it is used to wash the stone. No water leaves the site whatsoever. Linda made a motion to approve the permit, with David seconding. It was unanimously approved.

Tom Gross requested to see if the Town of Conway was on board with the Saco River Head Water Alliance putting in for a grant. They want to do an inlet and outlet survey to determine trout habitat, maintenance, and potential upgrades. The economic impacts of some of the maintenance are hefty, and most of the sites that would qualify for the survey are on NHDOT land rather than the Town land.

### **Member Roundtable**

No comments were made during the member roundtable.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.**