CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES August 10, 2022

The August monthly meeting of the Conway Conservation Commission convened at 6:30 PM at the Whitaker Meeting House in North Conway, NH.

<u>Present</u>: Chairman, Rob Adair; Vice Chairman, Nat Lucy; Selectmen's Representative, David Weathers; Larry Huemmler; Dan Lucy; and Recording Secretary, Jacqueline White.

Absent: Treasure, Linda Kearney; and Peter Minnich

Also Attending: Tim Nolin, Forest Land Improvement; and Abby King, USVLT

1. Approval of the Minutes for June 8, 2022:

David Weathers made a motion to accept the June 8, 2022 minutes as written; seconded by Nat Lucy. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Reports & Other Business:

A. Forest Land Improvement - Tim Nolin

Mr. Tim Nolin, with Forest Land Improvement stated cutting in Whitaker woods started Monday, August 8th. Mr. Nolin shared the cutting is going well, and the wood is adding up and thinks the value of the wood will cover the cost of the cutting. They are pausing on cutting tomorrow (Thursday 8/11) to move some of the wood out of there. Mr. Nolin stated the biggest issue with the job is the lack of attention to the signage from the public using Whitaker Woods for recreation. Signs are being ignored and people and their dogs are not paying attention and walking right under or up to the equipment creating the potential for some dangerous situations.

Mr. David Weathers shared that the Town Hall has been receiving calls about cutting in Whitaker Woods. Mr. Nolin stated they should be done Monday-Tuesday (8/15-8/16).

Mr. Nolin also shared he has completed marking the boundaries of the Marshall Conservation Area. He has found some encroachment and discussed sending a letter to the property owner. Mr. Nolin stated the gypsy moths have been very busy in the Marshall Area and is concerned over how trees are sprouting back in the second year. He suggests keeping an eye on the trees in the Marshall Area affected by the moths.

Mr. Nat Lucy asked Mr. Rob Adair about a stock pile for fill and if the Commission is still interested in it. Mr. Nolin stated we are going to need significant amounts of fill for the new trail construction. Mr. Nat Lucy said he was contacted by Peter Donohoe and there are piles of sandy fill by the Fernandez property and he was told the Commission could have the fill and suggested looking in to that. It was also stated there is a good stock pile area for fill on the Kearsarge Road parking lot for Whitaker Woods.

B. Upper Saco Valley Land Trust - Abby King

Ms. Abby King, with the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust (USVLT) presented the Commission with a proposed boundary line adjustment for a property they own in Redstone. Ms. King shared that this land was donated by John Schiavi to be used as trade land and not conservation land. The proposed boundary line adjustment prepared by HEB Engineers creates a new 10-acre lot, which they will be selling to Habitat for Humanity. Ms. King said this will come before the Planning Board soon, but was unsure of an exact date.

Ms. King asked if the Town had any plans for updating Mountain Street. Mr. David Weathers shared at this time there are no plans for any upgrades to Mountain Street, but that a concerned citizen from Redstone Village had contacted the Town about crazy drivers in the village. Due to this more signage is going up on the road. There was a short discussion on homeless encampments in that area.

Mr. Rob Adair asked if the Land Trust has any plans for a northern piece of land (not included in the proposed boundary line adjustment). Ms. King stated the USVLT is potentially interested in doing a land swap with the Town for the Town's property at (PID: 245-35). If the Town were interested in the land swap the subdivision Habitat for Humanity will be doing could create a few more lots for homes. The bonus for the Town to take over the northern piece of land currently owned by the USVLT would be better access to the trails system in that area of town. The Hemlock Lane entrance to the trails is currently stated owned.

There was some discussion on how the Town can sell or give up land. Mr. David Weathers said he would check on that process. Mr. Nat Lucy & Mr. Larry Huemmler both stated they feel this project is a good idea.

Ms. King thanked the Commission and stated this meeting has been very helpful.

C. Selectmen's Report:

Mr. David Weathers shared good news on the Conway Lake boat ramp and that the Governor has shared that the State will be covering half of the repair costs. Horizons Engineering is working on the design. Right now, when boats are coming out of the water its undermining the last panel of the ramp because boats are larger.

D. Member Roundtable:

Next Meeting: The next CCC meeting will be on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. at the Whitaker Meeting House in North Conway, NH.

Adjourn: Nat Lucy made a motion to adjourn at 7:28 P.M.; seconded by Rob Adair. Passed Unanimously (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Ladqueline White Recording Secretary