

**CONWAY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2024**

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

Present: Chairman, Nat Lucy; Vice Chairman, Dan Lucy; Rob Adair; Larry Huemmler; Peter Minnich; Corbett Tulip; and Recording Secretary, Jacqueline White.

Absent: Selectmen’s Representative, David Weathers; Treasurer, Linda Kearney; and Paul Getchel.

Also Attending: Tim Nolin, Forest Land Improvement; and Carrissa Milliman, USVLT.

1. Approval of the Minutes for May 8, 2024:

Mr. Rob Adair said he has one edit to the minutes, on page 2, paragraph 3, line 3: change “ground nesting birds” to “nesting animals”.

Mr. Rob Adair made a motion to accept the May 8, 2024 minutes as amended; seconded by Mr. Peter Minnich. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

2. Introduction of Carrissa Milliman with USVLT:

Mr. Nat Lucy introduced Ms. Carrissa Milliman with the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust (USVLT) to the Commission. Ms. Carissa Milliman said she has been with the Land Trust for two years and she is the Community Steward.

3. Public Comment: None.

4. Reports & Other Business:

A. Whitaker Woods Updates:

Mr. Tim Nolin said the Salvage Cut is pretty much wrapped up. Mr. Nolin described the clean-up work they had to do in there now that the logging is complete. Mr. Nolin asked how many loads of gravel do we want stock piled. Mr. Nat Lucy said we would like three loads stock piled. Mr. Nolin estimates after all expenses are paid, the Salvage Cut will have made approximately \$20,000, plus the timber tax on top of that is a separate line item. Members of the Commission shared they felt the job was done very cleanly. Mr. Nat Lucy stated this project was not about the money, but it is good that we covered our expenses.

Mr. Peter Minnich asked Mr. Tim Nolin if he ever heard back from the States Railroad Bureau. Mr. Nolin said the Railroad did not get back to us in time, in fact they showed up right after the cutting was done, which was two months after they were originally contacted. Mr. Nolin said the trees hanging over the railroad tracks will be the Railroad’s maintenance responsibility.

Mr. Corbett Tulip asked what is the plan moving forward now that the cut is complete. Mr. Tim Nolin said letting it naturally regenerate and you can already see the pine seedlings from last fall starting to germinate. Mr. Nolin said this area in a few years will be a dense thicket of bushes and trees and you can already see some sprouting along the edge of the trails. Mr. Nolin stated there were some oak trees that were showing signs of leafing out, so we left those oaks and they are looking pretty healthy.

There was a brief discussion regarding the parking area on Kearsarge Road for Whitaker Woods.

Mr. Rob Adair said he toured the Rec Path Phase 2 with Mr. Paul DegliAngeli and Mr. Josh McAllister to look at the final alignment and they made a few minor tweaks.

B. Walker Pond Update:

Mr. Nat Lucy asked the Commission if everyone received the email from Mr. Paul Getchell regarding the status of the grants he applied to. Mr. Lucy said we have received \$2,500 from the Pequawket Foundation, and \$3,900 from the Goldberg Foundation for the Walker Pond Sign Replacement Project. Mr. Lucy thanked Mr. Getchell for all of his time and hard work applying for these grants.

C. Marshall Trail Work Update:

Mr. Corbett Tulip said he was in there last week making improvements to Lucille's Loop and he is about 3/4 done with the project. Mr. Tulip stated he is elevating spots, added culverts, and there is plenty of material to work with in there. Mr. Tulip said there are some spots where trees are growing in on the trails and said we should think about trimming.

Mr. Corbett Tulip said there is also a spot where there is a bunch of standing dead oak trees off of Reds Trail. Mr. Nat Lucy asked if the dead trees threaten the trails or people on the trails. Mr. Tulip answered in the affirmative. Mr. Tulip stated there are approximately a dozen dead trees that could affect the trails. Mr. Tulip said it has been really great to see how many people are using these trails. Mr. Lucy asked if Mr. Tulip could cut these dead trees down specifically the ones that could fall in the trails. Mr. Tulip answered in the affirmative.

There was a brief discussion on annual trail maintenance.

D. Black Cap Trail Project:

Mr. Nat Lucy said the Black Cap Trail Project is a collaboration that has been going on for a year between the Nature Conservancy, the State, and the Town. Mr. Lucy stated this is the year-round trail that goes from the top of Hurricane Mountain Road to the top of Black Cap Mountain. The trail work will make it easier to maintain and it will stay in good shape longer. Mr. Lucy said hopefully we can coordinate the trail work with the parking lot work DOT plans on doing. Mr. Lucy said the Nature Conservancy will be applying for grants, and we have been asked to contribute to the match amount. Mr. Lucy suggested the Conservation commit \$3,000 out of next year's budget for this project.

Mr. Nat Lucy made a motion to commit \$3,000 out of the Conservation Commission's 2025 Budget to the Black Cap Trail Project; seconded by Mr. Rob Adair. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0)

E. Conservation Lands Assignments:

Mr. Nat Lucy said he thinks we as members of the Commission need to take ownership of the parcels of land we are responsible for, visit once a month, and then report back to the Commission with any issues

or maintenance needs. Mr. Lucy asked the members to each volunteer for a parcel they are interested in. Mr. Dan Lucy asked how many parcels are there. Mr. Nat Lucy read off the list of Conservation Lands; Abenaki Lands & Hubbard Davis, Common Lands at Hurricane, Green Hill Road land, East Conway Road land, Pudding Pond property, Marshall, Shedd Woods, Walkers Pond, Whitaker Homesite & Whitaker Woods, Duprey lot, and the North South Road lot.

Mr. Larry Huemmler volunteered for the East Conway Road lot. Mr. Dan Lucy and Mr. Rob Adair volunteered for the Marshall land. Mr. Peter Minnich volunteered for Walkers Pond. Mr. Dan Lucy volunteered for the Abenaki Lands & Hubbard Davis. Mr. Nat Lucy volunteered for Whitaker Woods & Whitaker Homesite. Mr. Corbett Tulip volunteered for the Hurricane Common Lands. Mr. Tim Nolin volunteered for the Green Hill Road land. Ms. Carissa Milliman volunteered for Shedd Woods. The lands that have not been picked yet are the Pudding Pond property, Duprey lot, and the North South Road lot.

F. Selectmen's Report: None.

G. Planning Board Update:

Mr. Nat Lucy said he is now an Alternate on the Planning Board, and went to his first meeting a couple weeks ago.

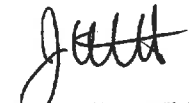
H. Member Roundtable:

There was a brief discussion on assigning e911#s to trail heads.

Next Meeting: The next CCC meeting will be on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. at the Whitaker Meeting House in North Conway, NH.

Adjourn: Mr. Nat Lucy made a motion to adjourn at 7:41 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Peter Minnich. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,



Jacqueline White
Recording Secretary